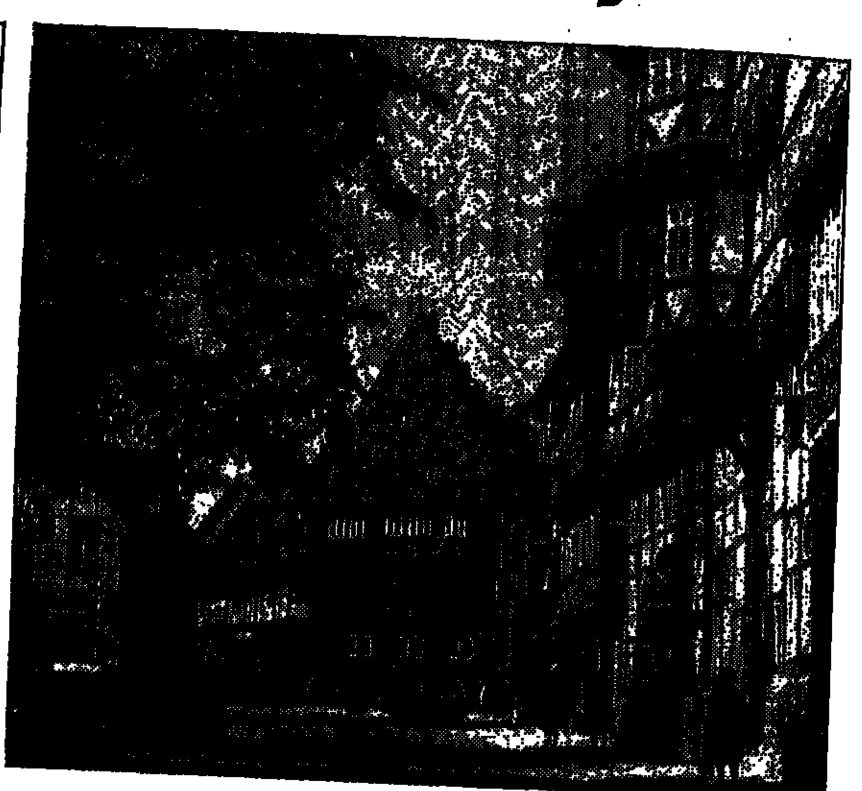
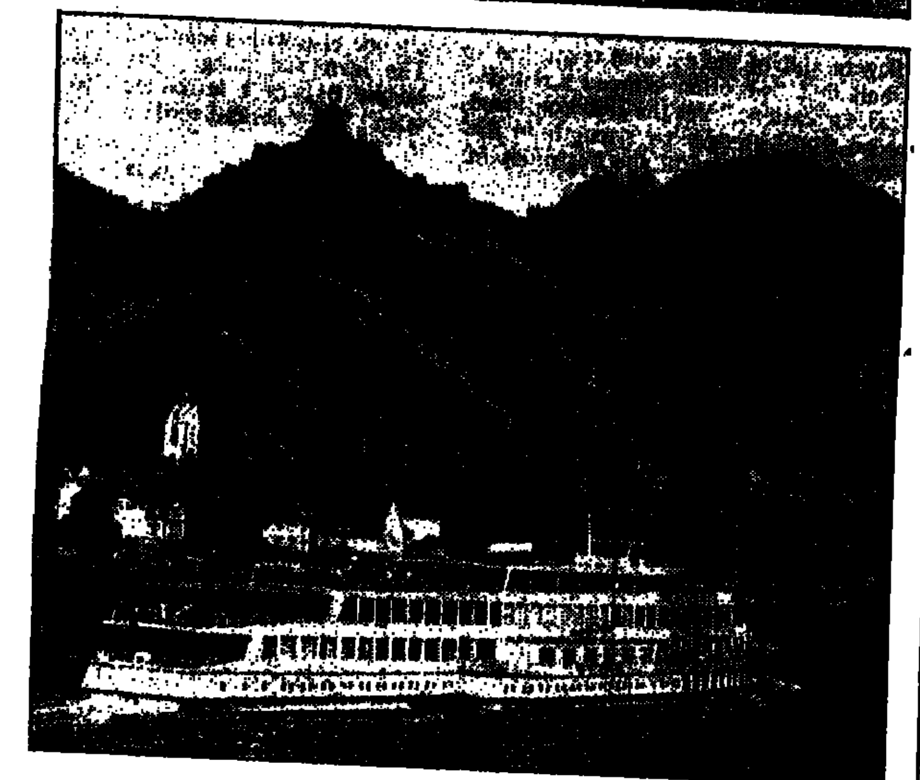








The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Henry Kissinger – the wizard trouble shooter

In its calculated ambiguity the cease-fire agreement signed by Israel and Egypt on 11 November is characteristic of Dr Kissinger's diplomacy, having much in common with the Vietnam agreement for which the US Secretary of State was awarded this year's Nobel Peace Prize.

The six points of the agreement, which was reached solely as a result of Dr Kissinger's mediation, deliberately gloss over differing viewpoints, providing both sides with opportunities of evaluating them in terms of their respective prestige requirements and domestic needs.

This all assumes, of course, that both sides handle the ambiguity in a way that does not prejudice the armistice itself. According to US diplomats an essential contributory factor in the success of Dr Kissinger's package was the readiness of Egyptian President Sadat to abandon his demand that the Israelis withdraw to the positions held on 22 October.

The text of the agreement deliberaly glosses over this concession by mentioning the date but omitting to commit the Israelis to a withdrawal to a line that according to Israeli Premier Golda Meir does not exist. This particular bone of contention is "absorbed" by agreements between the military commands to straighten out the demarcation line.

Israel's demand for the release of PoWs is to be met, but not unconditionally. The exchange will not begin until control points along the Cairo-Suez corridor are established.

Israel has agreed to the establishment of a corridor for the delivery of non-military supplies to the encircled Egyptian Third Army, but only in return for an assurance that Israeli officiers will be allowed to participate in the supervision of supply convoys by the UN peace forces.

In characteristic Kissinger fashion the Israeli call for an end to the Egyptian blockade of the Bab el Mandeb straits at the mouth of the Red Sea is to be satisfied by means of a combination of diplomatic silence and private understanding.

Tel Aviv insisted on a formal US guarantee that the Egyptian blockade would be called off and the United States must have given some such undertaking. Officially, however, Cairo has never admitted that a blockade is in progress, and Pentagon comments would seem to indicate that officially the United States also considers the blockade to be non-existent.

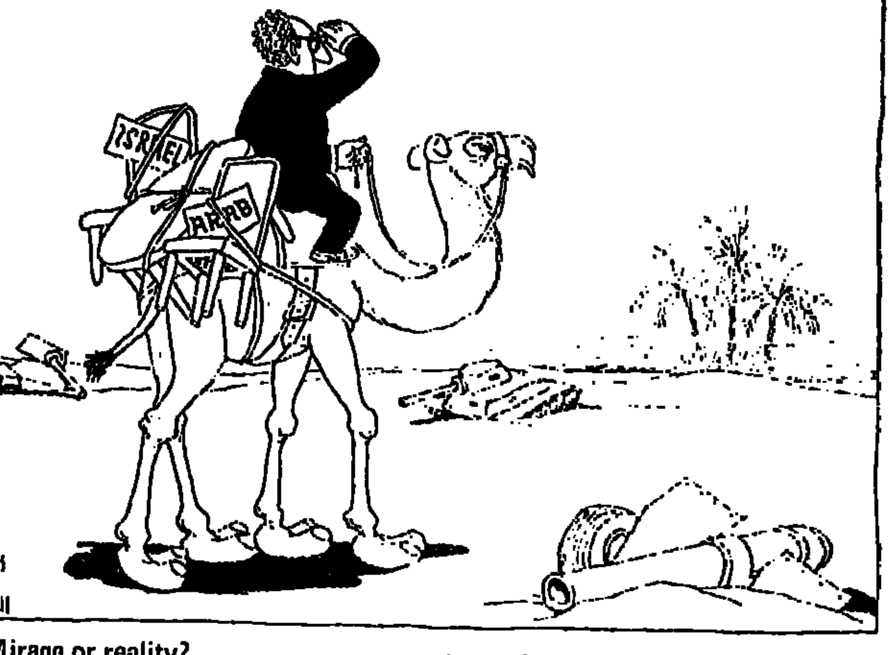
Ignoring bones of contention in the official wording of agreements in order to facilitate informal agreement is a tactic that has also been used in connection with long-term peace negotiations, procedures for which will be worked out over the next few weeks with Syrian participation.

Egypt refuses to negotiate directly with Israel, but this problem is to be circumvented by having peace negotiations conducted in one room but with one or more mediators in attendance. The United States will certainly continue to work as an intermediary.

This role began several weeks ago when Israeli Premier Golda Meir and Egyptian Foreign Minister Fahmi were in Washington at one and the same time for talks with President Nixon and Secretary of State Kissinger.

Despite the US arms airlift to Israel America's role as an intermediaty has considerably boosted US political credit in the Arab world, to which the re-establishment of diplomatic ties with Egypt bears symbolic witness.

Dr Kissinger's conviction that the war provides the United States with a unique opportunity of renewing contacts with the Arabs that have been at a dead end for years has been shown to be justified. Initially the Israelis were afraid lest his policy of striking a balance were pursued at their expense, but in the event it has proved to their advantage too.



Mirage or reality?

(Cartoon: Peter Leger/Hannoversche Allgemeine)

Dr Kissinger also hopes that detente with the Soviet Union will emerge tried and trusted from its baptism of fire in the Middle East. It is assumed that Cairo's willingness to negotiate is the result of influence brought to bear by the Soviet Union.

The Middle East crisis has, of course, delayed Dr Kissinger's visit to China. What is more, the war, apart from a short phase of confrontation between Washington and Moscow, has resulted in joint crisis management by the Big Two. Sino-American talks of any consequence have not been held since Mr Brezhnev visited the United States last summer.

From Peking's point of view the major advantage of ties with Washington is the moderation they are bound to impose on the Soviet Union, which as 44 divisions stationed along the Sino-Soviet border.

By way of corollary the announcement of a fresh visit to Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai by Dr Kissinger was, according to some pundits, more instrumental in dissuading the Soviet Union from sending troops of its own to the Middle East than the dramatic state of alert on which US forces were put.

Herbert von Borch

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 November 1973)

IN THIS ISSUE

Mid-East ceasefire agreement signed

The six-point armistice agreement has been signed, but the prospect of an end to recurrent crises in the Middle East will not be a reality until the Egyptians and the Israelis get together at the conference table under the aegis of the United Nations in Geneva.

The credit for this prospect is due to the way in which America and Egypt met each other half-way. President Sadat realised that in the final analysis he could only achieve his political aims with Washington's assistance, and Dr Kissinger played his part as an intermediary with surprising impartiality.

The Soviet Union, which viewed the renewed Middle East conflict as a welcome opportunity of regaining lost political ground in the Arab world, has been thwarted.

Moscow is not alone in being upset on the quiet. Israel too is evidently taken aback by the realisation that the United States is no longer an ally through thick and thin but has suddenly assumed the role of a referee who, while not forgetting the vital interests of the Jewish state, also shows understanding for the legitimate goals of Cairo underwritten by the United Nations on more than one occasion.

The Arabs are justified in feeling themselves to be the winners of the latest call to arms. This time they have succeded in running the risk of a confrontation between the Big two and forced Washington and Moscow not only to supply weapons but also to devote thought to a peace settlement in order to salvage detente.

The alarm sounded by President Nixon in respect of the oil shortage has also proved the oil boycott to be a highly effective weapon and one that can be wielded successfully in the weeks to come as a means of ensuring that at least the terms of the UN resolution are fulfilled at the conference table. One can but hope that President Sadat shows moderation.

Cyrill von Radzibor

(Kieler Nachrichten, 12 November 1973)

Optimism warranted

The first agreement concluded between Egypt and Israel in 24 years will certainly go down in the history of the Middle East. Whether it will prove to be of historic significance remains to be seen.

When Israel and Egypt signed the 1949 armistice agreement in Rhodes a period of peace by no means ensued. The events of 1956, 1967 and 1973 have merely highlighted the protracted conflict between Jews and Arabs.

Will the outcome be any different a quarter of a century later? Will a major peace conference begin on, say, 10 December? The 11 November armistice agreement is certainly a step in the right direction.

At the same time there can be no denying that it is only a small step related to humanitarian and technical aspects of the cease-fire.

No mention is made of the ending of the blockade of the Bab el Mandeb straits at the entrance to the Red Sea. This alone demonstrates the problems in store for the negotiators at talks where far more will be at stake than a mere stretch of water.

Even so, a modicum of optimism is warranted, certainly more than would have been prior to the outbreak of the fourth Arab-Israeli war.

The great powers, particularly the United States but also the Soviet Union (though less overtly at present), are evidently determined this time to nip the Middle East crisis in the bud once and for all.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 November 1973)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Mid-East crisis highlights rifts in EEC and Nato

The fourth Middle East war has not only brought to light rifts in the Western alliance but cast Nato into a crisis. In the socialist camp too the war and its abrupt end brought about by the collusion of the United States and the Soviet Union has not been without at least psychological effect.

The way in which the two world powers have performed their constabulary duties, blowing their whistles as though for an infringement in a particularly heated game of ice hockey, came as a shock to many a government and Party official.

This was a frank demonstration of the ease with which the two powers can be prepared to sacrifice the interests of their smaller friends and allies on the altar of policies aimed at maintaining the balance of power.

While East Berlin and neighbouring capitals were still busy advocating the Arabs' most far-reaching demands the Kremlin was already engaged in discussions with US Secretary of State Kissinger, acknowledging the right to live of all states in the Middle East, including Israel, and even trying to make direct contact with the much-maligned Israelis.

At one fell swoop, as it were, the socialist States of Eastern Europe were forced to realise that their leeway is even narrower than they had imagined even in he wake of the Brezhnev Doctrine and the stiffer pace of socialist economic integration.

Had not the Big Two's agreement on the Middle East borne out what the Chinese had always maintained, that the Soviet Union was more than prepared to disregard specific interests of "fraternal countries" if it were a matter of coming to an arrangement with the other superpower?

Was not Russo-American collusion bound to confirm suspicions harboured for some time by the Soviet Union's Comecon partners that the Kremlin might be equally intent on coming to economic agreement with the West solely in its own interest and at the expense of its fellow-socialist countries?

The shock occasioned by the course of events in the Middle East and the fuel added to the fire of fears lest Moscow no longer uphold its own "national" interests with sufficient rigour and tenacity was doubtless one of the reasons for the rumpus caused by East Berlin and SED leader Erich Honecker, the GDR leader's aim being to ensure a commitment on the part of the Kremlin to a tough line on Berlin prior to the visit to Moscow of Bonn Foreign Minister Walter Scheel.

In an interview Erich Honecker outdid himself in respect of Berlin, claiming that the Four-Power agreement talked in terms of (loose) connections rather than (closer) links between West Berlin and the Federal Republic and asserting that the agreement, far from permitting the further development of Bonn's "presence" in Berlin, represented a demand for the phase-out of this presence.

In the circumstances these exaggerated claims need be taken as no more than an appeal to the Kremlin not to neglect the vital interests of its faithful ally, the GDR, no matter how keen it may be on maintaining the international ballance of power.

Herr Honecker must have been particularly upset that his appeal fell on deaf ears in Moscow. The Soviet press carried extensive coverage of the remainder of his interview, including lengthy quotations, but made no mention whatsoever of the crucial comments on Berlin. In this respect the appeal would not appear to have had the required effect.

As regards the sacrifice on the altar of global detente, the GDR has for some time felt itself to be once bitten, twice shy. After all, it was Moscow that in the Four-Power agreement consented to and guaranteed trouble-free traffic to and from Berlin and strict limits to GDR checks on access routes.

The Kremlin too forced the GDR to conclude a transit agreement with Bonn and an entry-permit agreement with West Berlin Senate, the possible consequences of which for internal security in the GDR made East Berlin boffins' hair stand on end.

It is no coincidence that the GDR has

Continued on page 3

U.S. demands 2,000 million Marks more in offset agreement

Offset purchase talks got off to a fresh and doubtless protracted start in Bonn recently. At the same time a two-day conference of Nato's nuclear planning group was held in The Hague. The recent tension in relations between this country and the United States could hardly fail to make its presence felt.

For the next two years the United States is demanding purchases in America to the value of 8,800 million Marks to offset the foreign exchange cost of stationing US troops in this country. This represents an increase of over 2,000 million Marks on the agreement that expired in the middle of this year.

From Bonn's point of view not the least part of the problem is that the lion's share can no longer be ploughed into purchases of US armaments, for which the demand is no longer as high as it was.

Yet Washington is not prepared to make much in the way of cuts, partly, of course, because of exchange-rate trends that have made the cost of stationing troops in this country so much more expensive.

In Bonn the US negotiators reiterated that the United States might, depending on the outcome of the offset purchase talks, have to reduce the number of American troops stationed in the Federal Republic regardless of the progress of the Vienna MBFR talks.

The political repercussions are easily imaginable, just as are those of the comment made by Defence Secretary Schlesinger prior to the Hague conference to the effect that Washington was considering whether, in view of Bonn's objection to the shipping of US arms to Israel from the Federal Republic, the Pentagon can continue to store as much military equipment in this country as it has been doing.

Both comments demonstrate that resentment can have immediate practical repercussions. On offset purchase at least, Bonn's position has been rendered none the easier.

Karl Heinz Vmibel

(Nordwest Zeitung, 7 November 1973)

Bonn's Middle East policy

Bonn officials have been surprised by the critical response to the Nine's Middle East declaration, which can only mean that they cannot have been aware of the far-reaching nature of a number of the formulas used.

It is not denied that the declaration contains pro-Arab tendencies not hitherto apparent in official pronouncements, but the Bonn Foreign Office has been under pressure from several quarters since the start of the Middle East conflict.

Having opted for "neutrality" Bonn upset the United States, its main ally. This neutral stand may in effect have been directed against Israel, but for the Arab countries it did not go far enough and they tried to bring increasing pressure to bear on Bonn.

At the same time the Israelis were annoyed, and what is more the domestic fronts between the Social and Christian Democrats began to bristle.

On his trip to Brussels Foreign Minister Scheel had a strong presentiment that the process of European integration would be severely set back if the Common Market countries failed to adopt a joint approach on this occasion.

Several attempts to reach a common viewpoint had come to grief since the Middle East resolution of two years ago (which was controversial enough itself at the time).

Prior to the Copenhagen conference of Common Market Foreign Ministers a resolution had been prepared but was out to two meaningless sentences because agreement was not reached.

Other Common Market countries finally gave in to France for fear lest the Foreign Ministers again part company without reaching agreement.

As Bonn put it, the paths of each of the Nine to the conclusion eventually reached had differed in length. The views of each had been stated and formulated in précis at a session of political directors burning the midnight oil. There was no mention of how long it had taken Bonn to come round to the view finally adopted.

Were fighting to continue or be resumed Bonn might, or so the Foreign Office feared, find itself in a position in which it would irresistibly become involved.

Arab threats were somewhat heavy-handed and from 22 October, the date of the first UN armistice resolution, Bonn felt itself to be in a position in which its first duty was to look after its own vital interests.

A breakdown in crude oil supplies would have unpredictable social and economic consequences for the country. Since Walter Scheel's 28 October television interview it has been clear that the scales of Bonn's Middle East policy have tipped in the Arabs' favour.

Not only relations with Israel were of a special kind, the Foreign Minister stated. The same applied to ties with the Arab countries.

Bonn's assessment of the Middle East situation remains based on the assumption that Israel is the stronger of the two sides and that the Arabs are bound to come off worst in armed conflict. The Arabs are accordingly being lent psychological support.

At the rear there is also, of course, the idea that the Soviet Union would not countenance an Arab defeat and that any such turn of events would prejudice the entire concept of detente.

Klaus Dreher

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 8 November 1973)

Legal assistance agreement

Courts of law in the Federal Republic and West Berlin will in future be able to contact Soviet legal authorities direct when they need assistance. Following the talks between Foreign Minister Scheel and Gromyko and Kosygin experts of both sides are busy working out the details of this agreement in principle. These will then hold good for all other socialist States.

Bonn can thus establish full diplomatic relations with Prague, Budapest and Sofia before long.

The compromise reached is that West Berlin courts will in future meet with every assistance in Eastern Bloc countries while on the other hand the tricky issue of the involvement of Federal Republic embassies has been circumvented.

By means of this agreement the Federal government has achieved what it considered to be its foremost aim, that of ensuring people from both the Federal Republic and West Berlin equal treatment by way of legal assistance from the Soviet Union and other Eastern Bloc countries.

Equal treatment being assured in practice, the Soviet Union was able, having avoided the pitfalls of Federal Republic representation of West Berlin abroad in this complicated context, to shore up its view that West Berlin remains a constitutional oddity and is not administered by Bonn.

Both sides tried to stress the practical solution and make light of the political ramifications. In comparison with the terms offered in initial talks with Prague Bonn has met the Eastern Bloc half-way as it were, but the Soviet Union has contributed towards the compromise by consenting to direct contacts with its legal authorities.

Early in November East Berlin's Erich Honecker called for a reduction in Federal Republic "presence" in West Berlin. In the extracts from this interview reprinted by *Pravda* this demand was carefully omitted. This would seem to indicate that Moscow is not insistent on any such reduction and is prepared to tolerate the maintenance and development of existing ties provided they do not run counter to West Berlin's special political status.

The establishment of any further Federal agencies in West Berlin will, on the other hand, be opposed. This Soviet viewpoint will doubtless have been mentioned during the talks between Foreign Ministers Gromyko and Scheel.

Following the prospective compromise on a topical aspect of the implementation of the Four-Power Berlin agreement it may be assumed that moves in certain quarters in Bonn to establish additional Federal agencies in West Berlin will gradually come to a halt.

Heinz Lathe

(Bremer Nachrichten, 5 November 1973)

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■ POLITICS

Helmut Kohl and CDU still swimm against political tide

Helmut Kohl, chairman of the CDU for less than six months, has suffered defeat before he has even had a chance to come through the trial period in his new job.

North Rhine-Westphalia CDU resolutions on the question of worker participation in management have given a clear signal for the CDU party-political conference in Hamburg in mid-November, since the NRW group represents almost one third of the total CDU membership.

The fact that two so powerful and so differently structured associations as the Rhineland and Westphalia CDU groups have come out with such a clear majority for the worker participation proposals of the CDU social services sub-committees and have thus voted down the proposals of the national executive is a clear indication to the CDU leadership that is has misjudged feelings throughout a broad sector of the party.

The mistake made by Helmut Kohl and his General-Secretary, Kurt Biedenkopf, is that they have not been flexible enough in their thinking. They have paid insufficient attention to the dynamic process of the change of ideas in their own ranks.

The Biedenkopf plan may be the most progressive that has ever been approved by a responsible panel of CDU members. But as we have now seen it does not go far enough to satisfy important party groupings. This means that — to put it conservatively — a qualified minority is unable to give solid backing to this party leadership on a question that the leadership itself, namely Kohl, has described as "a foremost development in social welfare policy".

In other words since the Düsseldorf party conference at the end of January 1971 a section of the party rank and file has marched past the leadership, although this leadership has changed.

In Düsseldorf a majority of the delegates went along with the suggestions put forward by the commission chaired by Kohl, who later decided he would not stick by his own guns. In Hamburg it could happen that the party leadership will be outvoted by a rank and file majority — a nightmare for any leadership. Assuming that the CDU took the social services sub-committees' proposal as their own policy the CDU/CSU would not have gained anything thereby, assuming the government went ahead with its own worker participation proposals, which have, however, still to be negotiated.

Even if the CDU suddenly achieved a majority in the Bundestag it would be impossible for them to alter company law along the lines proposed by the social services sub-committees in this legislative period.

Anyway there is no majority for this proposal. The FDP has rejected it since it does not recognise *leitende Angestellte* (senior staff under contract) as a group. The CSU is prepared to go along as far as Biedenkopf but no further. And the SPD and trade unions are taking a completely different path to worker participation.

The question is, what do the sub-committees and those who back them seek to achieve? The latter have simply leapt on to this topical bandwaggon so as to appear modern. But the left wing knows what it wants. It is hoping that the SPD/FDP will not be able to reach agreement and that worker participation will thus become a major issue at the next general election in 1976.

The social services sub-committees considered that Biedenkopf is a threat to their (supposed) monopoly for carrying the banner of social welfare and ideology. But as Kohl now goes along whole-heartedly with Biedenkopf he bears the responsibility.

Quite apart from the worker participation question Kohl's first months in his new position have not been distinguished. He has not got to grips with policymaking, nor has he been decisive in his leadership. As the Hamburg party conference approaches we see, amplified, qualities about Kohl that have always been disturbing. He is rather too timorous than too bold, he is too prepared to accept compromises and he lacks the grit to get his ideas accepted. This is not what those who elected him Chairman were looking for in their new leader.

The CDU/CSU continues to swim against the current, and uncertainty about where the parties are trying to swim is deterring many people from giving their allegiance to the Opposition parties. A clear statement was made by the Lower Saxony FDP that it would only form a coalition with the SPD, since the CDU/CSU is not a suitable partner at present. Lower Saxony is rather like a breakwater. If any FDP state party groups had been prepared to make a pact with the CDU it would have been in Hanover.

The FDP is concerned to cast off the shackles in its relationship with the CDU, but this would not involve a coalition in any state, nor an alliance at the presidential elections. On the contrary the FDP's main aim is to stick by the SPD and break the "union" majority in the Bundesrat (Upper House).

Klaus Dreher

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 6 November 1973)

Bank nationalisation becomes a major issue

DIE ZEIT

Who does the Chancellor listen to? In economic policies he has tended to seek the counsel of Ludwig Poullain. But it seems doubtful whether the managing director of the Westdeutsche Landesbank is still among those whom Willy Brandt is still keen to consult.

In early November Herr Poullain made himself unpopular with the SPD by saying that the party had undergone a fundamental change of course.

Demands for State control of investments and nationalisation of the banks have caused Herr Poullain to doubt whether Social Democracy is remaining faithful to the principles of the free-market economy. Indeed he has recorded "irrational resistance" to the existing economic and social order in the larger government party.

Of course such claims are not new and have been voiced by others. The difference is that Ludwig Poullain, a Düsseldorf banker, can be taken as a non-partisan witness, not speaking for his own benefit. His bank cannot be nationalised — it already is!

In fact the SPD's progress towards becoming a socialist party seems scarcely reversible. Of course Willy Brandt, Helmut Schmidt and other longstanding members of the SPD do not want to overthrow the present social order and replace free enterprise by State administration of the economy.

Since the conference of workers in Duisburg it has become clear that there is no chance of mobilising grass roots. The workers, who were looked upon as a possible counterweight to the Young Socialists have become a further "anti-capitalist fighting group".

The SPD leadership has let matters drift for too long. Discussions about the interpretation of democracy and the imperative mandate are now being carried outh with greater decisiveness than ever.

In matters of economic and social policy the party right wing and centre are showing more and more resignation. Where worker participation in management and accumulation of capital in private hands are concerned the party has largely aligned itself with trade unions, and new measures for State controls of the economy are repeatedly being forged.

Nationalisation of banks is in the forefront. None of the party groups that are raising this battle cry has come forward with more than nebulous arguments for nationalisation such as "smash the monopoly powers of the banks".

On closer examination statistics show that sixty per cent of financial institutions are publicly owned anyway. None of the problems of lending and borrowing could be solved by nationalisation.

Even "moderates" argue that nationalisation would not be contradictory to the Bad Godesberg Programme. In fact Godesberg justifies State control of the economy.

This has no longer anything to do with the spirit of 1959. Then the SPD began to come to terms with the free-enterprise economy that has proved so successful. Tody many Social Democrats seem to regard the Bad Godesberg Programme as being words, words. . . .

Diether Stolze

(Die Zeit, 9 November 1973)

Continued from page 2

chosen the present juncture to hold a show trial in East Berlin of West Berliners and West Germans accused of aiding and abetting refugees from the GDR.

By making play with the manifold opportunities of aiding and abetting escape attempts presented by the terms of these agreements the GDR no doubt would like to demonstrate to the Kremlin leaders the difficulties Moscow's Berlin agreement has created for the GDR.

Security being writ large in the Kremlin, the GDR hopes to meet with understanding in Moscow, not to say agreement to more rigorous measures in response to escape attempts on the transit routes between the Federal Republic and Berlin.

The show trial was also intended to induce other Warsaw Pact countries to intensify their cooperation in nipping escape attempts in the bud. Why else would there have been such detailed mention of the escape routes via socialist countries? The whole enterprise does nothing but underscore the uncertainty prevailing in the socialist camp.

When the superpowers do business with one another the smaller countries have every reason for anxiety about safeguarding their individual national interests by their respective protecting power.

In the wake of the latest war in the Middle East this realisation is widespread in Eastern Europe. There too anxiety and uncertainty are gaining ground.

Peter Jochen Winters

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 8 November 1973)

Bonn has at the ready emergency oil powers

Will this country be faced with an oil crisis sooner than Bonn expects? Recently the expert on oil matters at the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs gave assurances that there was no hurry to pass a law enabling the goverment to take emergency measures in the event of an energy shortage.

But only five days later the government saw fit to draw up just such a Bill and present it to the Bundestag without further ado. This measure is due for immediate signature by President Heinemann. It will enable the government to impose regulations regarding the consumption of oil, petroleum and other forms of energy, even to the point of out-and-out rationing.

The government's initial calmness seems well placed, since it managed thereby to avoid panicking. But now Bonn has obviously decided that preparedness is better than calmness.

In the light of the supplies already in hand and the number of tankers at present making their way to Rotterdam there seems no just cause for alarm or panic buying. Anyway a few spare canisters of petrol in the cellar with twenty or forty litres will not be much help if there is a real fuel impasse.

Now it is largely in the hands of the private consumer whether the government has to resort to tough restrictive measures or not. A Sunday motoring ban would probably be quite amusing at the outset, but if it lasted for several weeks it would soon become burdensome. And swingeing ration measures the more so.

There are some signs that the Arabs will not be making life so uncomfortable for West Germans as once seemed likely. Probably the EEC joint line, which on the face of it is pro-Arab, has not failed to make an impression on the Middle East oil suppliers.

This is to be hoped. If the Arabs go through with their threatened cutback in oil production by 25 per cent and the Western world alone comes to feel the pinch it will be catastrophic for our economy. The result of such far-reaching production cuts in Western industrial nations would be that these countries would no longer be able to meet their commitments to the developing countries of the Third World.

More than that, all idea of economic cooperation such as that between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union and its satellites would be out of the question if the wheels of our economy ground to a halt through lack of oil.

Brezhnev's Westpolitik, which largely consists of calling on the West to pour their capital and knowhow into the lame-duck socialist economy of the East Bloc States to get them on their feet again, would be thwarted. Thus the Soviet Union should also be concerned to appease its Arab friends.

Nevertheless, it is encouraging that Bonn has seen fit to create an armoury of weapons that could be levelled against an oil crisis, if one should occur. It would be irresponsible to rely on the insight of others.

Werner Neumann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 8 November 1973)

■ MASS MEDIA

TV critics air their views on children's broadcasts

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Programme editors, film-producers, scientists and critics indulged in duelling and extensive self-advertisement at the two-day Mainz Television Critics Conference which dealt with broadcasts for children.

According to mood, the four hundred specialists attending the conference put forward various ideas with humour or angry sarcasm. But, as at most large conferences of this type, what they really had to say only came out during the short coffee breaks or in the small groups that sat until the early hours of the morning.

Bochum educationalist Professor Otto Ewert paved the way for further discussions by claiming that the relationship between children's broadcasts and education was still ambivalent despute the "academic committees" set up to advise television companies about almost all programmes for children of a pre-school age.

Gert Münterfering, head of Westdeutscher Rundfunk's children's programmes, fears a situation in which the current list of learning aims could be replaced by a grading system. Only after graduating from the pre-school programmes would the child be allowed to see adult's television, he quipped.

He stated he would prefer to rely on writers, producers and cameramen who understand the medium of television and view their work as a challenge to their artistic capabilities. This does not mean however that programme editors should not be repared to face up to "scientific argumentation".

One fact which cannot be denied today is that television has joined the home and the school as the most important influence on education. Three to thirteen-year-olds sit in front of the screen for between thirty and sixty minutes a day. At weekends they may watch twice as much television.

What they see does not merely provide them with formal knowledge about a random subject. It can also influence their attitude and behaviour according to the oft-proved theory of "learning by observation".

Professor Ewert therefore demanded that young viewers should be offered information about alternative courses of action. Children cannot do much with purely memorised knowledge (of the highest mountain or longest river type) as they usually forget such facts as soon as the programme is over.

Formal knowledge can only become active knowledge that will alter their behaviour when they are given information about abilities and capabilities they are acquainted with from their own experience — those that they have already tested themselves in practice — and when they are shown the possible alternatives at every suitable juncture.

Ewert cited the example of the buzzer featuring in the road safety spots in the children's programme *Sendung mit der Maus*. Children who are in danger of behaving incorrectly (running across the street without looking left and right, for instance) are stopped in their tracks by the buzzer, the film freezes and a commentary provides extra information.

However, the subsequent discussion gave no satisfactory indication of whether current children's and pre-school broadcasts actually did lead to any change in conduct by featuring alternatives or whether children forget the patterns of behaviour which are merely performed.

Programme producers will have to examine this point. Ingo Hermann, head of the ZDF's education department, called upon them to have no fear of using their reflective faculties. They must examine the effects of their programmes and be aware of their own intentions as well as the unplanned side-effects.

Cologne lecturer Michael Klein cited an interesting example. He had watched an episode of the *Robinzak* series with a number of children from a centre for the homeless and afterwards discussed it with them.

None of the children were prepared to accept the inadequate father shown in the film as typical of their own family situation. They described their fathers as fantastic friends and understanding partners, which of course was not always the case.

The film producer had probably neither calculated nor expected this effect. These children who suffer from the intolerable burden reality has imposed upon them take refuge in a dream world that cannot be shattered by programmes of this type.

We can only be happy that this is the case for what would happen if these children suddenly had their eyes opened without having the slightest prospect of changing their situation on their own initiative?

Disastrous mental breakdowns could result as once the television is switched off nobody bothers about helping the children convert the information gained into action.

This gives rise to the question of whether pictorial and written presentation of behavioural patterns benefit children from the lower social levels. The medium may have an alternative method of accomplishing this, as Munich film-maker Gloria Behrens claimed.

During the course of two years she shot five films with a group of children who wrote the scripts themselves and used material based on their everyday problems. The children played themselves and afterwards discussed their work in the studio.

The ARD transmitted this series as part

Continued on page 5

Young writer complains newspapers fail to cater for the young

There are at present some nine million 15 to 22-year-olds in the Federal Republic and they have very little opportunity of putting forward their point of view in the press.

The editorial staff of *ran*, the magazine for schoolchildren and trainees published by the Trades Union Confederation, complain that their periodical will no longer be able to maintain itself if the number of subscribers continues to drop. The much-praised and much-criticised magazine faces a shut-down.

It is difficult to obtain a copy of *ran*. Few newspaper kiosks stock it and even senior officials of the Trades Union Confederation display little interest in seeing the magazine continue as *ran* criticises both manufacturers and some sections of trade union organisation.

ran is only one of many periodicals for young people which faces an uncertain future. Slowly but surely, magazines for the younger generation are tending to close down.

The outcome is that *Bravo*, a Bauer-Verlag publication, faces next to no competition in this sector of the market. *Bravo*, the largest periodical of its type on the continent, is read mainly by the innocent thirteen to sixteen age range. Interest wanes as soon as these teenagers grow more mature and no longer need the magazine's exposés, its pictorial novels and super-posters of pop idols.

A high-quality and more committed magazine for the young would have no chance at the moment or in the near future. The publishers of *Bravo* need have no fears about the future. No other magazine could compete against such a giant.

Surveys conducted among young television viewers reveal that 83 per cent of all 15 to 25-year-olds display a more or less high degree of interest in programmes dealing with the problems faced by young people.

Seventy-per-cent of the young viewers would like more information about careers and more than half this age group are interested in the wide range of problems faced by persons at school. More than a third would like information about young people and politics. Interest in the pop scene is on the wane.

These statistics can also be taken as applying to young newspaper readers with a number of reservations. Newspaper readers can usually be assumed to possess greater critical faculties, for instance.

The style and content of most daily and weekly newspapers in the Federal Republic reflect their political stance and their attitude to the younger generation. Few dailies or weeklies support the interests of the young on their pages devoted to culture and education. Few discuss their problems at length.

On the other hand, the number of

Deutsches Allgemeines SONNTAGSBLATT

newspapers occasionally devoting a page to subjects calculated to appeal to young people is on the increase. It is difficult to state the exact figure. Pages for the younger generation appear without any prior announcement and disappear just as casually.

The Kassel-based *Hessische Allgemeine* for instance recently introduced rationalisation measures and scrapped the editorial staff which dealt specifically with the problems of youth. The editorial staff, consisting of students, trainees and schoolchildren, were given no opportunity of signing off with an empty page bordered in black, as they had planned. Instead the page was replaced was a more conventional and cheaper page containing agency reports and announcements about the pop scene.

This example is typical of many newspapers devoting a page to the younger generation. The method is simple. You take a number of non-political articles dealing with the pop-scene or leisure-time activities, stick a few nice-looking photographs of pop-stars in between and add a few paragraphs of gossip. The response to this narrowminded "Bravoism" is weak and the staff responsible for these pages then believe they are on the right lines.

It is obvious that pages of this type are of no benefit to the young and are in some cases even directed against them. Young people display no interest in them. The pages perform no more than an alibi function whereby the publishers can claim to cater for the demands of youth and be up-to-the-minute at the same time.

Apart from these standard pages — which make up 40 to 45 per cent of all pages devoted to young people's interested — there are other pages for the young — about fifty per cent of the total — which deal exclusively with pop music, pop records and pop stars and create even more confusion in the already bloated and confusing pop scene. The political content of such pages must be under five per cent.

Apart from these run-of-the-mill pages for the young, there are a few, very few, written by serious journalists discussing the problems of the younger generation. But the effects produced by articles of this type vary.

Young readers look upon journalistic perfection as aseptic, sterile, smooth and therefore boring. Articles that do not sparkle with genunine commitment and refuse to employ the mode of expresson typical of the young fail to have any effect. That is why articles for young people should be written by young people.

Hans Wüllig

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 28 October 1973)

Magazine circulations show sex no longer sells magazines

Periodicals catering for the general public are finding life difficult. According to statistics for the third quarter of 1973, the four illustrated magazines continue to show a fall in aggregate sales.

Only *Stern* was able to sell three thousand copies a week more and now tops all the others. *Stern* has a circulation of 1.62 million and its subsidiary *Wiener Illustrierte* sells 120,000 copies a week.

Bunte Illustrierte, published by the Burda Verlag, showed an increase of 8,915 copies a week with a total circulation of 1.61 million. This increase

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in the third quarter only partly outweighed the 66,000 readers lost during the course of the year.

Bauer Verlag's *Neue Revue* showed a drop of 165,700 copies compared with the third quarter of 1972 and now has a circulation of 1.41 million. *Quick* has lost two thousand readers, despite the free advertising obtained during the Steiner case, and now accounts for 1.31 million.

The drop in sales registered by *Neue Revue* and its stable companion *Sexy* reveals that hard sex no longer sells. *Sexy* lost 31,000 readers and its circulation dropped to 1.06 million. If the present trend continues, it will soon drop under the one-million mark.

Bastei-Verlag's family magazine *Das goldene Blatt* increased its circulation by 46,559 to reach 383,579, proving that new readers can be gained by means of topics other than sex.

The biggest increase this year has been shown by Bauer's television perodical *Fernselnwoche*. Since the third quarter of 1972 it attracted over 287,000 readers to reach circulation figures of 945,578.

Burda's *Haus B*, appearing even two months which is sent to building society customers, as well as being available to the public at large, has almost reached the four-million level while its companion *Haus A*, also published every two months, registered a record gain of over nine hundred thousand to reach a circulation of 3,12 million.

Bravo, the magazine for young people, has also passed the one million circulation mark. The Bauer Verlag now sells it along with *Bravo Poster* in response to the competition provided by Springer's new publication *Poster Press*. Pop posters with accompanying commentary are folded, not stapled, inside these publications.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 October 1973)

■ ARMED FORCES

Bad Kissingen commanders' conference

Hannoversche Allgemeine

The main subject on the agenda of the 18th Armed Forces Commanders Conference was the new organisation introduced into the Bundeswehr. The two-day conference was held at Bad Kissingen and was attended by 350 officers and, for the first time, commanders belonging to the territorial forces.

Although Admiral Armin Zimmermann, the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, told journalists that he like all other commanders had to obey strict security rules, it is an open secret that one third of the army is to be composed of cadre forces.

The reorganisation plans full recruitment for two-thirds of the twelve army divisions which are currently divided into 32 brigades. The rest will consist of cadre



Defence Minister Georg Leber addressing Bundeswehr commanders at Bad Kissingen (Photo: dpa)

units which will only have weapons and equipment at their disposal. The members of these cadre units will only be called up in the event of attack.

The plans for this administrative reform were drawn up by the Defence Ministry from proposals made by an independent commission appointed by former Defence Minister Helmut Schmidt (SPD).

His successor Georg Leber (SPD) plans to explain the plans to the Federal Security Council on 26 November and the Cabinet will take its final decision two days later.

The Bill will be brought before the Bundestag on 29 November, though Nato will have to be consulted first as the reorganisation will have an effect on the presence and preparedness of the Bundeswehr.

These army reorganisation plans have been hotly contested over the past nine months, Zimmermann claims, though the commanders now accept them unanimously and with a mood of calm he never expected.

Zimmermann added that the Bundeswehr was now in a phase of decision and reorganisation after the year of planning (1972). Other reforms recently approved include a reduction in the period of national service to fifteen months and changes in training and organisation.

Both Minister Leber and State Secretary Siegfried Mann spoke at the conference about multinational armament policy while Nato ambassador Krapf turned to the international security conference.

Commander-in-chief Zimmermann discussed with a small group of generals events in the Middle East. The Defence Ministry is preparing an analysis of the situation by collecting information on the military action, conception and strategy of both the Arabs and Israelis.

Admiral Zimmermann also mentioned the ill feeling between Washington and Bonn following Bonn's refusal to allow the Americans to supply Israel from the Federal Republic.

"Our government should join with its Western European partners in a dialogue with the United States as we depend on cooperation with the Americans as far as defence policy is concerned," he stated. "We still abide by the view that Nato strategy must not be changed."

The alliance has already faced a number of difficulties in the past, he added and mentioned the French withdrawal from Nato. A more deep-seated cause for the ill-feeling between Europe and America was, he suggested, Dr Henry Kissinger's call for a new Atlantic Charter last spring.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 2 November 1973)

Continued from page 4

of its children's hour in 1972. Though the form of the series was not very attractive, Gloria Behrens states that she received a large number of letters from children in the same milieu who felt that at last somebody had made films with them in mind.

Experiments of this type should have been discussed more extensively as they are not easy to put into practice and, in view of the length of the learning process incorporated in the film, not the type of programme that could be described as interesting to children. There should however be further developments in this sector.

Educationalist Rainald Merkert claimed that it was important for television not to forget parents when making films for children. Parents must be able to understand the medium in their role as educators and should be made aware of problems connected with television in general and their children in particular.

The ZDF began its new educational programme *Kinder Kinder* (Children, Children) at peak viewing hours on 12 November. The series plans to deal with these problems in an entertaining though informative manner. That could at least be a beginning.

Heike Mundzeck

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 29 October 1973)

Replacement motor launches on the stocks

KielerNachrichten

The first of ten 143 class motor launches has been put down the slipway in Bremen as part of the navy's modernisation programme. The first of the twenty 148 class motor launches built in France have already gone into service.

These thirty boats, plus ten Zobel class boats that have already been modernised, will replace the out-of-date motor launches built between 1957 and 1960. The 143 class boats have a displacement of about 370 tons and are built according to the most modern of specifications.

They are the first navy boats to the equipped with the automatic Agis combat and information system and also have two automatic guns and two torpedo tubes. The torpedoes are radio controlled.

Like the 148 class motor launches currently under construction in France, they are equipped with four suface-to-surface missiles of the MM 38 Exocet type.

The new motor launches are planned for use in the Baltic where larger ships cannot be deployed. The Federal Republic has only small, though effective boats and aircraft at its disposal. The new motor launches will play an important role alongside submarines as they are tailor-made for the Baltic.

The Bundestag has approved the expenditure of some seven hundred million Marks on thirten 143 class boats. The second is due to be launched in Rendsburg on 12 December.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 23 October 1973)

Anti-tank defence to be improved, General Hildebrandt says

Lieutnant-General Hildebrandt, the Army Commander, conferred with the new Nato Commander in Central Europe, General Ferber, about the main aims of his future work a few days after the change-over.

At a press conference General Hildebrandt told the Nato Commander, himself a former Army Commander, that he wanted to expand the armoured forces in view of the recent increase in the Warsaw Pact's superiority in this sector.

General Hildebrandt, like his predecessor, plans to equip the armoured forces with a broad range of weapons, including tanks and various types of defence missile. Helicopter could also be used usa flying platform for anti-tank missiles, he suggested.

General Hildebrandt stated that the major problem — the threat posed by the

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Eastern bloc's superior potential in armoured forces — could only be countered by creating an equally strong defence system.

The armoured forces ratio is often four-to-one against Nato, in some areas it could be worse. To counter this threat with some degree of credibility, the army must possess as much flexibility as possible in fighting armoured forces. Using helicopters as a possible centre of defence was therefore indispensable, he claimed.

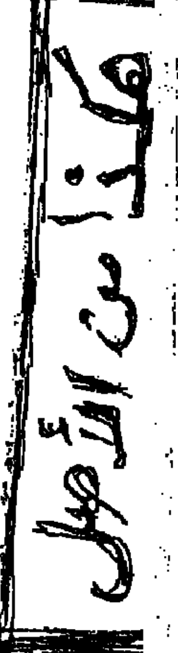
Apart from modernising and strengthening the anti-tank system, the army is most concerned by the non-commissioned officer situation, Hildebrandt stated. Recruitment of officer material has improved as a result of the establishment of the armed forces' own universities but the army still does not have enough NCOs.

General Hildebrandt stated that one NCO post in four was vacant. At present the army has only 73 000 or so non-commissioned officers. The army therefore plans to organise NCO training so that it will be of use they will be able later in civilian life. The first trials have now been running for more than a year.

Next year the army plans to extend its training capacity for non-commissioned officers to some two thousand places. They will be divided up among four special colleges. Three of these colleges already exist — the ones for electrical engineering and computer science in Feldafing and civil engineering in Munich. A further college specialising in mechanical engineering is planned for Aachen.

Another college opening next year in Bremen will give non-commissioned officers training in economics. Hildebrandt stated that the army leadership would draw an exhaustive list of propects for NCOs before the end of the year. It should serve potential recruits as a guide to career and promotion prospects offered by the armed forces, he said.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 12 October 1973)



FINANCE

Bundesbankmust not yet relax credit squeeze

At the end of every economic boom when the brakes have been applied the question is always whether or not to release them at any given time. The question is usually asked by those who have suffered the most from the restrictive policies and are waiting for the brakes to indeed be taken off.

In economics suffering is usually bankruptcy, which is the deadly kind, or losses, which can be healed. No one would be surprised if the building trade called for an end to the tough restrictive policy. There are many building firms that are up to their necks in hot water.

But ears are pricked when finance houses call for the tiller of credit restrictions to set the country on a new course. People listen because they believe that if anyone knows anything about money and its purchasing power it must be bankers.

Thus Jürgen Ponto, spokesman for the board of the Dresdner Bank, and Paul Lichtenberg, his counterpart at Commerzbank, could be sure of hitting the headlines recently when they said that the credit squeeze should be relaxed.

Now for the names of those who contradict these two bankers: Helmut Schmidt, Karl Klasen, Hans Friderichs, Otmar Emminger, Otto Wolff von Amerongen – to drop but the most important. So perhaps bankers do not know everything about what makes money tick.

Could it be that bankers are calling for the end of the squeeze because they are not the toughest when it comes to taking the blows? In a free economy it often happens that economists are but businessmen in disguise trying to obtain the best conditions for their own business and that those who call the loudest for an end to restrictive measures were those who were once calling the loudest for an end to inflation via just such restrictive measures.

But it is necessary to fight them rather than just ignore them, for their demands have started a war of nerves that will make it harder for the economic policymakers to steer the right course. Thus Finance Minister Friderichs said in his budget speech: "We must keep our nerve so that we can reap the fruits of our stabilisation policy this year and next." This sounded like the Royal We.

Helmut Schmidt obviously has public support behind him. People are still moved to passion most of all by rising prices. If there were signs that producer prices were not rising so fast and that both sides of industry would keep their demands in check this would perhaps be the time for a change of policy. But with an inflation rate that continued at seven per cent in 1973 the signs of a cooling down of the economy are still too slight for the government and Bundesbank to decide to release the brakes at this moment.

The increase in productivity has been noticiably less, but the call for higher pay goes on unabated, so companies have tried to protect their profits by price rises. When the economy was booming this was possible and producer prices went up by a worrying 7.2 per cent.

Hopes that wage claims at the next round of talks in industry will be for less than ten per cent are illusory. IG Metall, Eugen Loderer tells us, never makes the same mistake twice. At the beginning of the year the metalworkers' union contributed towards stability with a pay demand of less than nine per cent. But in next to no time employers were paying over the odds, so that effective wages increased by over twelve per cent in the first half of this year.

Wildcat strikes followed whereby the workers showed how dissatisfied they were with their unions. Loderer will not let this happen again.

Consumer prices can thus only begin to fall if declining demand helps lower costs here and there. But this has not yet been achieved even though the brakes have been applied hard.

The five economic research institutes recently stated that the stabilisation programme was slowly checking the boom in its stride. Never before had the brakes been applied so early and so fiercely as now. But impulses were still being felt as a result of continued high demand from overseas.

But industrialists are showing increasing lack of readiness to invest, and domestic demand for capital investment goods is slackening. Private consumer activity has only been rising slowly. The number of job vacancies is beginning to dwindle, the number of unemployed to grow. The boom has passed its peak. But the signs of cooling off are no more marked than is desired, as Herr Wolff stated.

There are some worries. Apart from building there is the book and shoe industry and clothing, where short-time working, a lack of finances and factory closures indicate trouble. But while economic policymakers treat all alike with the same monetary restrictions, the same taxation etcetera there are bound to be those who suffer more than others.

When the State cuts public expenditure firms that rely on State contracts feel the pinch. When the Bundesbank takes money out of circulation branches of industry that rely heavily on outside financing such as the building trade are hit. The longer the brakes stay on the more structural weaknesses appear.

Our economic policy with its overall controls needs fine controlling as well. Economic Affairs ministers in this country do not generally set much store by structural policies, whether they sign their name Erhard, Schmücker or Schiller. Hans Friderichs could win friends by pioneering here.

Even though creaking sounds are being heard from various corners of our economy the Bundesbank must not take pity. The time is not right. Karl Klasen has warned that the outcome would be far worse than the present restrictions, namely the need for a wage and price freeze. If priority must be given to certain suffering branches of the economy or regions of the country relief can be dispensed best by stepping up government spending.

Rudolf Herlt

(Die Zeit, 2 November 1973)

Tax reforms are on the way

Süddeutsche Zeitung

There was a time, not so many years ago, when tax reform was considered in high-falutin terms as one of the great reforms of the century. Since then we have had a cold shower! As a result it is no longer regarded as a great work completed that the government has done its bit towards tax reform by drawing up comprehensive reform plans and drafting a Bill.

Nevertheless it is true that this tax reform exists as a complete concept and is therefore better than its reputation.

Bills for the reform of major parts of income tax, corporation tax and savings premiums laws have been drawn up in such a way that income tax and savings premiums reforms can be discussed and ratified by the Bundestag and Bundesrat by 1 January 1975.

But nobody should be fooled – almighty effort must be put in particularly by the members of the Bundestag sub-committee on finance despite the fact that the Coalition has reached agreement on all points, as internal wrangles should not occur, unless that is opinion polls or local elections throw up explosive material with regard to fiscal policy.

Many aspects of tax reform are controversial and will remain bones of contention for those involved, from the new tax tariff to the abolition of deductable expenses. But in the reform proposals as they have been drawn up already one factor remains undisputed - there will be a fairer tax system, even if it penalises those in the higher income bracket more highly.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 October 1973)

Tax reform Bill – not perfect but an improvement

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Tax reform, the government has said, is among the most important domestic reforms to be carried out during this legislative period. But critics claim that there is no possibility of carrying out genuine, effective reforms.

What is offered as tax reform, they maintain, is nothing more than a patching and darning process. There is no broadly-based concept of fairer taxation, and all that has emerged from the proposals in the end is a political compromise.

Those who would reject the tax reform proposals drawn up by the government are obviously the same people who feel that tax reform must be carried out with hammer and chisel methods, destroying edifices right, left and centre. From a heap of rubble sculptures of Classical beauty should be created, they feel, so as to please everyone.

Unfortunately in most spheres of public life things are not so simple, and when dealing with a sensitive network such as the taxes our society is expected to pay they are most decidedly complicated.

The State will never lightly turn away possible revenue, so it will not put an end to those numerous little individual taxes that do not bring in much of themselves, but which when added up amount to a tidy sum.

And the taxman will never agree to do away with all those tax differentials that make taxation bearable for the individual just so as to make the taxation system simpler. So from 1 January 1975 the tax system will still be complicated and to the layman almost incomprehensible.

The Cabinet approved the final clauses of the tax reform Bill towards the end of October. The questions that remain are these: do the reforms get rid of certain distortions and absurdities that have cropped up in the course of time? Are they more just? Will the tax system be just a fraction simpler?

Certain steps in the unravelling of the taxation mess are long overdue, such as the anomalies in the taxation of real estate and other property, which the Federal Constitutional Court has been pillorying for a long time. Reform will end the absurdity whereby real estate is taxed according to the unit values of 1935 while capital holdings are taxed at current rates.

House-building was for many years subject to tax privileges that made sense, but no longer do so. So-called degressive depreciation for housing benefited the building of luxury flats and houses as well as more modest dwellings. Reform of this was long overdue.

Then there was the possibility of deducting property tax as expenses when submitting income tax returns. The new Bill seeks to end this. This concession was introduced at War's end as a relief for the high level of income tax set by the Control Council. This reason has long since ceased to be valid.

Where fairness is concerned it is income tax that most needs reform. Planned changes will ease the burden on small and moderate incomes, going beyond the burden of inflation. And when one considers that these reliefs will involve marrieds with incomes up to 80,000 Marks a year and more (taking into account reliefs on the supplementary tax *Ergänzungsabgabe*) it is clear the government is not seeking to give special benefits to that section of the community that is regarded as potential votes-to-be-won. The reliefs and shift of emphasis involved can be regarded by the mass of the populace as fair.

A central reform involves child allowances, which would be of equal benefit to each child quite independent of the income and profession of the parents. The tax savings or rebates would be the same for everyone. This is the nearest one can get to equality of opportunity for all children via fiscal means.

In the complex question of greater fairness there is the reform of special expenses. This means that those who draw higher incomes would no longer be favoured more by the deduction of special expenses than the more lowly paid. This measure will not win as many new friends as the child allowance reform.

Finally simplification. It has been clear for some time that this would not be as far-reaching as had once been hoped. All in all tax offices will have less work, but not the taxpayer who will continue to wallow in tax declarations and expense sheets etcetera.

Nor has this tax reform been brought home cut and dried as yet. The Bundestag has a lot of work ahead if it is to achieve all its aims.

Reform must be followed by a revision of the share-out of revenue to Bonn, the Federal states and local councils. And even when these reforms are passed the legislators will still feel the need to adjust taxation scales frequently.

Despite all the reservations that must be made about the tax reform bill it does more in the name of "reform" than many other recent measures that have come under this rubric.

Heinz Murmann

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 November 1973)

ENERGY CRISIS

Hot tempers and a cold spell for consumers this winter

At the beginning of the cold time of year in West Germany many consumers have got cold feet. As a result of the Middle East conflict and its economic repercussions the price of oil, which had been rising anyway, soared to new heights.

At 29 Marks in some cases and as many as 34 in others for 100 litres of heating fuel (with a total purchase of 5,000 litres) this has doubled compared with last winter's price.

Furthermore, for the first time in many winters the spectre of possible shortages of supply has appeared on the horizon. The Federal Republic can, as Economic Affairs Minister Hans Friderichs assures us, get by for several months on reserves without decreasing the amount of oil at present consumed, but the embargo that the Arabs have placed on the Netherlands will cause many people to shiver this winter in front of cold radiators: Rotterdam, one of Europe's most important oil terminals is affected.

In the heated atmosphere that oil prices are beginnning to cause there is talk of price manipulation, a call for a price freeze and the introduction of price pegging for central heating fuel.

There can be no doubt that importers and oil dealers have taken advantage of the present boom in oil sales, undoubtedly caused by fears of a crisis, to bump up prices. It is panic buying by customers who want their oil immediately that has pushed up prices. Consumers felt they must buy today, since oil would presumably be dearer tomorrow.

To be perfectly fair one must glance back to last year and analyse the prices with which this year's are being compared. In August 1972 they had reached an unaccustomed low. The oil industry made quite genuine losses. Nothing would move oil consumers to go out and buy. The winter of 1971/1972 had been mild and they had plenty of oil in their tanks still. They expected prices to keep falling, since heating oil prices are very much dependent on demand. So they waited. Prices did fall and almost touched rock bottom. The industry began to consider whether production should be cut back.

In the almost non-existent winter of 1972/73 consumers switched off their central heating and laughed at the thought of the money they were saving on oil. It was a buyer's market. And quickly this became accepted by people with oil-fired heating as a natural state of affairs. When oil companies bleated they were told this was a professional hazard.

Now the boot is on the other foot. It is not just the shock of soaring oil prices that will get the consumer heated this autumn. For there are signs that food prices are on the rise again after a lull during June, July, August and September, when a drop in price of seasonal produce helped keep shopping bills down. This seems just to have been a short hiatus.

The association of West German retailers stated recently that there could be no question of an economically based turn of the tide in price trends. Industrial producer prices for consumer goods showed a continually rising growth rate. In September for instance prices to wholesalers for consumer goods rose by 6.6 per cent, while retail prices only went up by 5.7 per cent on a yearly calculation.

Price increases

Made up of (in %)	1962: Living expenses of an average family 740 Marks (monthly average)	1970: Living expenses of an average family (monthly average) 1,294 Marks
Food	39.8%	33.3%
Rent, electricity, gas and heating	15.1	17.2
Clothing	12.1	10.1
House appliances & furniture	11.7	11.4
Car, travel and post	7.7	10.5
Other items	13.7	17.5

Price increases 1969–1973 in %, calculated on living expenses for

	1969	70	71	72	73 Jan-Aug	Sept
1962	2.7	3.0	6.2	5.8	7.2	6.4
1970	19	3.4	5.3	5.5	7.0	6.2

Price increases in the textiles industry are being felt particularly badly. These are caused by the price rises in practically all textile raw materials on world markets and wage increases in the processing industries. Some textiles and items of clothing are eleven to sixteen per cent dearer than at this time last year.

Consumers are reacting to price rises, especially where clothing is concerned. With their budget being made less effective in almost all spheres by rising prices they are cutting down on new clothes purchases, patching and darning where necessary rather than throwing away!

At grocery stores, butchers and greengrocers and other food shops there will unpleasant surprises awaiting the housewife in weeks to come. Beef prices may have levelled off a little compared with recent months, but they are still climbing steadily.

Many houseviwes have switched to pork and bacon as a result. So pigmeat prices have been hiked! In October the price of a pork chop rose by 1.1 per cent to 10.12 Marks per kilo and thus costs 12.3 per cent more than twelve months ago. It takes time for the benefits of this to strike home to pig breeders and encourage them to produce more pork, so price rises should continue.

Poultry is more expensive and egg prices have rocketed. October began with a "Consumer's Week". It ended with a clear indication that the autumn and winter are going to be a rough time for consumers.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 November 1973)

Oil sheikhs end years of Western complacency

Despite Economic Affairs Minister Friderichs' attempts to preserve the calm the public continues to fear a cold winter. News from neighbouring countries is scarcely designed to lift the gloom. The Netherlands has been hit by an Arab supply embargo, France and Spain have had to raise petrol prices drastically, and in Britain news that the government has ration books ready printed awakes wartime memories.

Yet Bonn can be believed: we are not on the threshold of an acute oil crisis. Supplies in hand will last for over sixty days, even at the present rate of consumption, and oil continues to flow to this country in sufficient quantities. Nevertheless increased prices for petroleum products are inevitable.

Apart from the higher prices being demanded for crude oil by Arab and other exporting countries panic buying by consumers in this country is helping to inflate the price. Appeals to reason have largely been ignored and the squirrel instinct holds sway.

At a time like this the call for a freeze on oil prices, such as the Tenants Association has made, does not show much insight. This would be just about the most stupid thing the government could do at the present juncture. Nothing will stop the squirrels stocking up with oil more effectively than rising prices.

And of course oil finds its natural level in the countries that are prepared to pay the most for it. Cut prices and we will cut our supplies. To people sitting shivering in front of cold radiators there is no comfort in knowing that oil would be cheap if there were any to buy.

A dirigistic measure of this kind would do nothing to alleviate the cause of the oil crisis, either, namely the dearth of petroleum and its products.

It would be a mistake to assume that the price rises are just a temporary outcome of the Middle East War. This conflict has simply given the Arabs an excuse to implement measures that they have been considering for a long time, along with countries as unaffected by the was as Venezuela.

Oil exporters will continue to control the amount of oil they sell and thus keep prices high, war or no war. And no one will be able to convince the Arabs they are being rapacious while the governments in most industrial nations charge well over fifty per cent of the price of oil in tax.

Nor can the oil producing countries have any interest in seeing their "liquid assets" pumped out of the ground at a great rate. Libya, for instance, was producing oil at such a rate at the end of the sixties that if this were kept up her supplies would be exhausted in twenty years.

After these years of plenty Libya would once again become a country with little significance in the world. The Arabs have recognised that it is of advantage to them to ration the production of oil, instead of increasing it continuously to meet the growing craving for energy of the industrial nations.

Nor would it be necessary for the Arabs to lose any money on the deal. If Arab countries remain united and all agree to keep oil in short supply higher prices will ensure that their income remains satisfactory.

However vexing the present price increases may be they can be taken as a timely warning signal. Up till now industrial countries have been all too prodigious with the world's limited oil supplies. As with other commodities there is no better dampener to prodigiousness than rising prices.

At the same time the shortage of oil will speed up the search for new sources of energy, new modern ways of using our natural energy source, coal, and of exploiting oil shale, which up till now has not been profitable.

Up till now Europeans – and Americans more so – have acted as if cheap oil were something that would never dry up. Energy consumption (energy wastage too) have increased astronomically. How much energy a nation consumed has been used as a yardstick for how developed that country is.

Thus we have become overly dependent on those countries under which chance placed great reserves of liquid black gold. Thus Bonn never considered developing a national energy policy for two decades. It just was not necessary.

Perhaps we should thank the Arabs for waking us up, even though their methods were not of the most gentle.

Michael Jungblut

(Die Zeit, 2 November 1973)

■ LEISURE

Caravan manufacturers face fierce competition

Above-average increases in caravan sales are a thing of the past. At the twelfth Essen caravan show production figures for 1973 would, it was estimated, be 9.5 per cent up on last year, whereas last year's figure represented a 17.8-per-cent increase over the year before.

Much of domestic production is for export since the growth rate on the home market is not expected to exceed four per cent.

Next year will be a year of fierce competition on the home market, the indication being that production will exceed demand. At the end of this summer season the trade association estimated that stock in hand amounted to 12 000 units, though other sources claim that 15 000 caravans have yet to find a buyer.

The trade association reckons that the annual production figure will in future average some 65 000 units, which is less than the current year's output.

Now the Big Three in this country, Knaus, Tabbert and Wilk, already manufacture some 15 000 caravans a year and the Saar subsidiary of Bendix, a US manufacturer, plans to produce well over 10 000 units per annum for the domestic market.

These four, then, will manufacture 55 000 caravans between them, leaving forty smaller manufacturers to share the remaining 10 000 between them. One manufacturer or another seems almost certainly to be forced out of business before long.

In order to offset competition at home a number of manufacturers have made a point of boosting exports. With 22.6 per cent of exports Wilk head the list, coming second only to Tabbert at home according to the Flensburg motor vehicle registration office statistics for the first six months of this year.

167 exhibitors plied their wares at Essen, but with engineering and comfort at their present level little in the way of technical innovations could be expected.

There is, however, a distinct trend towards greater installed comfort as opposed to the optional extra variety. More and more models are being introduced with heating, a refrigerator and double-glazing as standard fittings. The maximum permissible width of 2.50 metres is increasingly being utilised to the full.

The new Wilk models are designed to cater for people who find it hard to part company with the creature comfort of their own beds. The bed fittings are full-sized and made to accomodate the family mattress.

Other manufacturers, such as Knaus, have chosen to cater for the housewife by incorporating in their range a more comfortable kitchen corner. Quelle, the mail-order firm, have gone even further, replacing the uniform veneer finish with white and brightly coloured doors and drawers.

Neckermann, another mail-order firm that followed in Quelle's footsteps by introducing a range of caravans barely a year ago, this time premiered the Bonanza 530 T, a model that was conspicuous by its absence from last year's range.

The Bonanza may be nothing out of the ordinary as a caravan, but the hire purchase terms offered by Neckermann make it an extremely interesting proposition. It is supplied by the Frankfurt firm on instalments of as little as 224 Marks a month.

Kip, a manufacturer owned by the US Bendix group, exhibited a caravan evidently designed by a skiing fan. At the rear it features a locking compartment ideally suited for storing away a pair of skis. Winter campers need no longer worry lest some midnight marauder make off with their skis.

What is more, the roof is higher along the centre of the caravan, allowing two metres (six foot six) clearance along the entire length. This gable design includes skylights that also improve winter ventilation.

Tabbert, the leading manufacturer in terms of home sales, have reduced the number of models in their range from 37 to 22, including the Baronesse 550, a newcomer designed as a combination long-distance and on-site model.

In price comparisons Dethleffs prove to have introduced a feature that could well be emulated. This manufacturer used to concentrate on the lower end of the price range but now caters for more demanding customers. What is new, however, is that Dethleffs specify both winter and summer prices.

Günther Hennerici, whose sensationally inexpensive Eifelland caravan caused a market uproar some years ago, is no longer the price-undercutter he used to be.

Hennerici has sold off his Eifelland works and launched out in a new venture under the brand-name Rheinland. The five models exhibited at Essen are pretty well middle of the road as far as prices are concerned.

Hennerici stated at Essen his intention of building the most up-to-date caravan works in Europe next year.

In addition to the number of caravans on exhibit there was also an increase in the number of campers on show. One of the most interesting campers undoubtedly remains the Autohome manufactured by Caravans International. It sleeps four and includes heating and a refrigerator for 20 000 Marks. A similar vehicle marketed by Kip costs 24 000 Marks.

The campers manufactured by some firms, however, would appear to be geared to the requirements of firms and businessmen rather than holidaymakers.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 October 1973)



Caravans in Essen

(Photo: Stadtbildstelle)

Brisk business at Hamburg boat show as sailing booms

Three of the exhibits at this year's Hamburg boat show are not for sale. They are the *Saudade, Rubin and Carina III*, which won this country the coveted Admiral's Cup. Both the yachts and the Cup are on show, demonstrating that this country indeed has something to show for itself.

With the general increase in moderate affluence an armada of leisure craft have joined the sporting bandwaggon. Roughly a million boats ranging from yachts to paddle-boats plied the waters of the Federal Republic and West Berlin last season.

They included 300 000 yachts and motor-boats and next year there will be even more. The trend to buy a boat of one's own is continuing, boat show exhibitors unanimously agreed.

The Hamburg boat show is the Continent's largest and its statistics are impressive. Six hundred exhibitors represent two dozen countries on 52 000 square metres (thirteen acres) of exhibition grounds, including thirteen halls.

More than a thousand craft ranging from rubber dinghies to de luxe cruisers were on exhibit and visitors were able to browse to their hearts' content.

Virtually anything afloat is in demand: small diesel cutters from Denmark, steel-hulled yachts from Holland, rubber dinghies from the the south of the Federal Republic, motor-boats from the United States, racing yawls and power-assisted yachts, an ocean-going yacht from Finland described as a pirate's ship and any number of plastic-hulled leisure craft of the kind that can be transported on the roof rack of a car.

Britain provided the largest contingent of foreign exhibitors: 45 firms directly represented and a further forty represented by agents. This country is well on its way to emulating the British as a nation dedicated to messing about on the river.

The problems that arise are not inconsiderable, ranging from environmental conservation to whether or not the Yachting Association ought to abandon its exclusive outlook and advocate the cause of all boat-lovers. In many respects the tradition distinction between yachts and motorboats is already antediluvian.

The demand is catered for by an expansive industry and craftsmen who can currently be sure of earning a good living. Boats have become a widespread hobby at a time when traffic congestion on dry land is growing less and less tolerable and it is a seller's market as turnover increases.

The best market in Europe is Britain with an estimated annual turnover of 500 million Marks, followed by Italy with 340 million, this country with 320 million and Sweden with 300 million Marks. There is little likelihood of European markets being saturated for some time to come either.

Yacht ownership is, of course, a matter of prestige, but motives range from the desire to wave goodbye, if only for a few hours, to the hustle and bustle of a landlubber's life to pipedreams of a life on the ocean wave.

There are dozens of motives for the boat boom and this year's Hamburg boat show was a busy market-place, though old hands may well wonder where all these craft are going to berth.

Berths and moorings are as hard to come by on the waterside as parking-lots are on dry land. One of these days we will be able to walk across the water, hopping from one boat to the next.

(Die Zeit, 26 October 1973)

Sailing-boats in Hamburg

(Photo: Marianne von der Lancken)

■ THE ARTS

Conference to discuss Samuel Beckett meets in Berlin

Writer Uwe Johnson, along with Hans Mayer and Marianne Kesting a co-chairman of the Beckett conference organised by the Berlin Academy of Art, claimed that it was really astonishing how much Beckett had set in motion. Theatres, publishers, newspapers, radio, television and universities all deal with Beckett's work.

Johnson's words could also be taken more literally as professors, critics and translators from America, France, Britain, Switzerland and the Federal Republic had been induced to attend the conference.

But the conference can be considered part of the Beckett industry it set out to attack. The Times Literary Supplement claimed ironically some years ago that the slimmer Beckett's works became, the greater the volume of interpretations and critical works about him grew.

Anywhere near a complete bibliography of the secondary literature published about him in various languages would itself take up more than one volume of sizeable proportions.

Beckett researcher John Fletcher is currently engaged on drawing up a concordance, the first time a venture of this type has been conducted on the works of an author who was still alive. The only other concordances are for the Bible, the Koran and writers like Shakespeare and Goethe.

Beckett is therefore the author of works that have already become sacred and exposed to interpreters and aficionados. Beckett is the supreme father of contemporary literature, an erratic block in the relatively flat landscape of current literary production.

It was typical of this conference that its subject — Beckett's books and plays — were not taken as an excuse for brilliant rhetoric of the type that turns similar events into an occasion for intellectual fireworks.

This does not mean to say that the delegates were not allowed to laugh or did not laugh. The clown figures form works like *Waiting for Godot*, *Mercier and Camier* and *Watt* and Beckett's extremely Irish sense of humour are calculated to cause laughter, even if it is all too easily restrained.

But what happens with a work that is calculated to bore itself into us, as Beckett claimed to Professor Wolfgang Iser of Konstanz in a rare fit of self-interpretation?

What of the pain it causes in us (according to Hugh Kenner, one of the Beckett specialists who did not attend the conference in Berlin) when the work is interpreted in rational terms?

How can the peculiar experience of a Beckett reader be classified according to what Professor Iser described as a discursive framework of reference?

Whatever the answers, the explanations that every interpreter is forced to use are at least made relative when they come into contact with others. None of them will be found in the geometric centre of the sphere of possible interpretation. Only Beckett's texts themselves can take up this position.

Professor Ibn Hassan of Milwaukee coined the term "post-modern imagination" for Beckett. To distinguish him from representatives of the "modern imagination", Ibn Hassan juggled with the names of a number of authors and mentioned in more or less random order Joyce, Cage, Butor, Robbe-Grillet, Broges, Barthelmo and even Styron, Döblin and many others.

Hassan himself stated that the term "post-modern imagination" was no more than an aid for interpreters but he could at least have provided a more systematic definition.

Marianne Kesting approached Beckett far more systematically and purposefully. Her talk on literary history dealt painstakingly with the non-active heroes featuring in literature since the nineteenth century. She discussed Goncharov's *Oblomov*, Flaubert's Frédéric Moreau, Mallarmé's passive Hamlet, Valéry's Monsieur Teste and many others.

She demonstrated that Beckett's figures incorporated the total refusal to approach the world in any other manner than by examining their own mind, the peculiar way they see the world and the reflection of the world in their brain.

This does not mean to say that intellect and imagination are completely cut off from the outside world. Instead, these figures' conscious nature analyses the world in a particularly subjective manner.

Making oneself the subject is the only way the work can become fiction,



defined as the outcome of making own's one creative consciousness objective. This course is symbolised in Beckett's work as a descent into one's own skull. The outside world appears in the work only as a reflection.

The understanding and interpretation of Beckett's works have now reached a stage where there is no longer any mention of his absolute pessimism. Beckett is no longer described as a poet of the absurd or of total meaninglessness. This was no more than a reaction to the shock his works first prompted. Critics have long recognised the concrete questions raised by Beckett's "formalism".

Professor Myoux of Paris provided a large number of examples of this formalism. Although French, he spoke in English. English and German were the only official languages at the conference even though Beckett wrote more than half his books in French.

Mayoux pointed out the frivolous element in Beckett's works, his method of enumeration and permutation, his serial compositions, his cyclical mathematical constructions and the ever-recurring geometrical peripheral figures.

But Beckett could not have aimed at being a mere formalist who wrote his plays purely as a joke. The actual significance of the persons and situations must be examined.

Is it not true to say that there is a mutilation of the subject in this bleak world? Is it not true to say that Pozzo and Lucky in *Waiting for Godot* reflect the position of a master and his servant?

Gerhard Wilke and Ernest Parkins took the opposite view in their analysis of Beckett's plays. Though the lines drawn to connect the timeless and unlocalised nature of Beckett's plays with real society were sometimes a little too indistinct and the reflection omitted a series of intermediate stages between fiction and reality, the questions asked were justified.

This talk should have prompted intensive discussion as it placed Beckett's negative and destructive tendencies into a context revealing the productive chances this has for the reader.

Unfortunately, this problem was not discussed in full. The delegates revealed their difficulties of communication. Beckett himself spotlights such difficulties, claiming that communication takes place only by means of projected ideas and that these projections can only become distinct when they are constantly made to disappear in the dialogue.

The conference delegates resembled Beckett's figures as they were unable to content themselves with the mere fact that Beckett's works exist. But this was only hinted at during the conference.

It was only clear beneath the surface that the various interpretations are themselves works of fiction which attain a new dimension of frankness through their own apparent solidarity. Brecht would have liked to transform the frankness of Beckett's figures into solidarity. John Fuogi, the well-known Brecht specialist, spoke of Brecht's plans to "turn Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* upside down."

But he also asked whether it was still possible to look upon Brecht as positive and Beckett as negative. Neither *Mother Courage*, *Galileo Galilei*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* or *The Good Person of Szechwan* are as positive as the popular simplified interpretations of Brecht would demand.

Excerpts were read from Beckett's novel *Watt*, written as early as 1942 and 1943, which Dieter Hildebrandt has adapted for the Schiller Theater studio with a good deal of understanding for what it is really about.

There was also a good performance on the part of actors Heidemarie Theobald, Horst Bollmann and Hans Lietzau. The comic element of the tragic and the tragic element of the comic, the reduction of human misery to the musical sounding mathematical were made visible and audible. There was a good deal of laughter.

Erika and Elmar Tophoven have demonstrated in their translations of Beckett's works from French and English that it is possible to reproduce this strict music of words in German.

Tophoven cited a number of examples to illustrate the problems that have to be mastered in the process and spoke of the experience he has gained in the twenty years he has spent translating Beckett. That too is a good performance.

The clashes during the conference could have been more violent and it

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Kogge association lashes out at literary Establishment



Hans Joachim Sell

(Photo: dpa)

Fashion has a stranglehold on literature and reveals the contempt in which the reader is held, Dr Hans Joachim Sell, the winner of the 1973 *Kogge* Literature Prize, said at the presentation ceremony in Minden.

But the reader can still escape this manipulation if he remembers his own quality as a reader, Dr Sell continued and called for a new, less strained relationship between "consumers" and literature and the literary world.

The reader does not need to suffer the cynical double-dealing of large-scale advertising, he stated.

The ceremony was clearly marked by the organisers' wish to avoid most of the fuss surrounding events of this kind. Hans Jürgen Rathert, the Mayor of Minden, asked three critical questions:

Do the persons who award the prizes only honour themselves? Is there not an important element of public relations involved? Do towns award prizes as a particularly subtle form of cultivating their image?

There are good grounds for looking critically at the ritual of West German cultural policy, Rathert claimed. Cooperation between politicians and writers must be considered as something more than providing both sides with an alibi.

Dr Inge Meidinger-Geise of Erlangen, the head of *Kogge*, the European writers' association, stressed that the prize was never awarded to an author merely because it seemed to be his turn.

Hans Joachim Sell's literary work provides psychogrammes of various persons, mental topographies and critical essays with a political dimension, she claimed. "There is none of the German narrowness in his works," she added, "H.J. Sell is worthy of the prize as he remains independent of pure decoration."

Sell himself spoke of the defencelessness of the author who does not know his reader. Stendhal for example was born in 1783 and did not expect to be read until one hundred years later.

Publishers are tending to speak less and less about their authors and more and more about their authors' production, Sell claimed. It is not the text that appeals to readers but the degree of fame surrounding the author's name.

This is no more than sales policy, Sell pointed out, and reveals the contempt held for the reader. Editorial staffs, publishers' readers, critics and bookshops exercise a dictatorship of fashion and many works suffer as a result.

W.A. Bauer

(Kieler Nachrichten, 30 October 1973)

■ MODERN ART

German Expressionist bubble may be about to burst

That German Expressionism and the art that grew up around it have won and consolidated a proud position on the art market over the past fifteen years or so and have managed to improve that position steadily at home and on the international scene is a phenomenon that bears some thinking about with the art market in its present hectic state.

Will the Expressionists, their forebears and their fellow-travellers be able to maintain their position in the long run and continue to push up their "stock market" value? Will material shortages soon begin to stamp their mark on this collector's market as well? Or will the choosy collector be scared off by astronomical prices for the Expressionists' works and turn to other fields?

The success on the German art market since the War of the Expressionists is irrevocably tied up with the historic activities of the one-time auctioneer and present-day gallery proprietor Roman Norbert Ketterer.

As the supremo of the Stuttgart Kunstkabinett he put many an important Expressionist work under the hammer in the forties and fifties. Many of them have disappeared into private collections and are rarely seen by the public — others are in museums devoted to 20th century art. Those who are today dazzled by the world record prices paid at art auctions should take a glance back to the past.

At the end of the fifties when the initial euphoria of the Economic Miracle had died down a great deal of interest was shown in collecting. In the art world this was on occasions prompted by a genuine love of art, sometimes by a need to be a part of the art world or often by the desire to invest.

This provided a stimulating climate for the art trade, and Ketterer used the opportunity to become a big promoter of an art school that had suffered all manner of vilification during the twelve years of Nazidom.

It was just a question of restoring the good name of the Expressionists, but also of pursuing a marketing strategy to up-value with clever calculations a group of artists that belonged as much to the future as to the walls of art galleries.

Such was the boom in Impressionists and the Paris school from Chagall to Hartung that it was clearly advisable for collectors to branch out into undiscovered fields, and the historic-modern Expressionists provided just this.

Ketterer was successful. In the May auction of 1960, that dealt largely with Expressionists, Ketterer achieved a turnover of seven million Marks, according to an article that made the *Spiegel* cover.

This auction, containing many drawings which are today recognised as leading examples of this art, brought prices that at that time knocked many people off their feet.

Handelsblatt

DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG

For instance: Ernst Ludwig Kirchner's *Wettertannen* which has passed through Ketterer's hands for 430 Marks in 1951 was knocked down for a cool 11,000. Edvard Munch's coloured wood-engraving *To the Wood* which had gone for 1,150 Marks in 1950 fetched almost ten times as much, 11,000 Marks.

Another painting by the Norwegian arch-Expressionist Munch, *Nude on a Red Cloth*, fetched the record price of 164,000 marks at Ketterer's spring 1961 auction.

What are the market prices of the Expressionists today, and what indication do they give of future price trends? Let us begin with Munch and his late Expressionist phase. In 1969 at a Lempertz auction the *Kneeling Nude* of 1919 had to be withdrawn at 300,000 marks because the reserve price was much higher.

A qualitatively comparable Munch with the same motif and this time entitled *Anna* was sold for £112,000 at the exhibition "Selected European Masters" in June this year at the Marlborough Gallery.

A leap in price of this kind can be put in context by comparing it with the prices paid for Munch drawings in June this year in Berne. The lithography and water-colour *Madonna (Loving Woman)* cost a Norwegian dealer 350,000 Sfr plus fifteen per cent premium. Nine other works topped the 100,000 Sfr level. The mixed wood engraving and litho *Girls on the Bridge* raised 220,000 Sfr.

The high prices commanded by Munch engravings at auctions have a negative side effect. Collectors who intend to put Munch works on the market are encouraged to charge more and more immoderate and inflated prices for their possessions.

Switzerland's Galleria Henze (run by Ketterer's son-in-law) had to charge 275,000 Marks for a Munch water-colour at the Düsseldorf art fair IKI and dealers say that moneyed buyers toyed with the idea of acquiring Munchs costing up to one million Marks.

In recent years the pre-eminence of original paintings over coloured prints and artist's sketches has been whittled away, the dividing lines have become blurred and a litho is as likely to be regarded as a valuable work of art as a painting that would grace the walls of any gallery.

Now to consider another artist riding high on the Expressionist wave: Emil Nolde. The Nolde retrospective in Cologne in the spring certainly revealed the technical weaknesses of this Nordic colour-mystic (lack of base with excessively thick layerings of paint), but his position on the art market remains undisputed, despite such technical imperfections.

Christies of London still hold the world record for a Nolde with the 500,000 Marks paid in June 1972 for *Feriengäste II* from the Leo M. Rogers collection. The first West German record for a Nolde was set by the Hamburg auctioneers Hauswedel who knocked down *Abendrot überm Meer* for 280,000 Marks in June 1971. Then in June this year the 1936 painting *Leuchtende Sonnenblumen* went for 366,000 Marks at Ketterer's. This picture of sunflowers from the period of the "unpainted pictures" is part of a pre-eminent collection of modern artists that Ketterer showed in Düsseldorf. Its current price is quoted as 450,000 Marks.

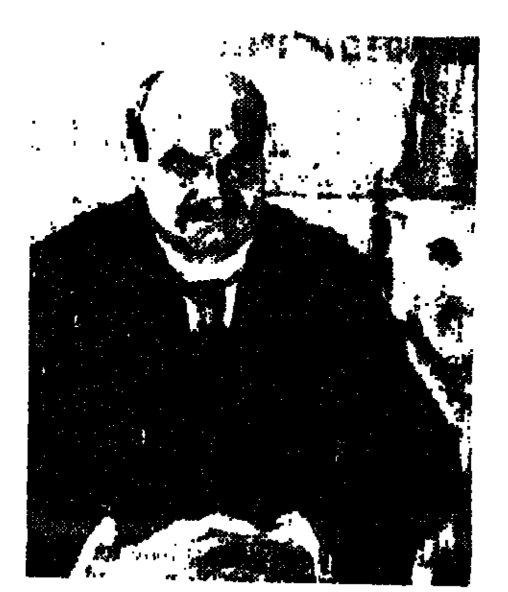
The New York dealer in Expressionists, Hutton, operates at a high profit margin, we hear. A Fauvist landscape *Blühende Bäume* by Karl Schmidt-Rottluff was snapped up by him at Hauswedell's in June for 410,000 Marks plus commission. At IKI in Düsseldorf the price quoted was 680,000! This is a prohibitive price, presumably meant to tempt near offers.

Visitors to auctions must be well aware that Erich Heckel's graphic work is among the most highly valued of the Expressionists. At the Hauswedell auction in 1971 the coloured wood-engraving *Fränzi liegend* cost 32,000 Marks net and was not in the best condition. Recently a Frankfurt dealer had to pay 52,000 Marks for a similar specimen.

In Heckel's works also the values of prints and originals have become blurred.

Nolde's *Dame und Herr*

(Photos: Hamburger Kunsthalle)



Schmidt-Rottluff's portrait of P. Rauert

An important Heckel subject, *Three Nudes in a Landscape* (oils on canvas) is available for 75,000 Marks at Grosshenning in Düsseldorf.

Franz Marc is much in demand and commanding high prices, as can be seen from the record London price of 455,000 Marks paid in April 1972 at Sotheby's for the 1913 painting *Die blauen Fohlen*. Dr Rainer Horstmann of Cologne acquired it for a private collector.

Oskar Kokoschka's works are enjoying a similar boom at present. The official record price to date is $150,000 paid on 21 October by the Galerie Fischer Fine Art at Sotheby's in London for a view of London with Waterloo Bridge, dating from 1926.

Slightly more moderation is being shown in the case of Max Beckmann. Good examples from his middle period can command about a quarter of a million Marks. An exception must be made in the case of the 750,000 Marks Frankfurt had to pay for reparations to the Frankfurt synagogue for Beckmann work described as "degenerate" during the Third Reich.

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner's work has ceased to hit the headlines of late, largely because none of his more significant works have come under the hammer in the past two years.

But Ketterer, who is proud of his role as executor of the Kirchner estate, has a number of important Kirchner works. Those that he exhibited in Düsseldorf were all around 300,000 Marks or less.

Kollwitz drawings have levelled out. Only his earliest prints still fetch five-figure Mark sums.

But there is no sign of prices for Paul Klee works stabilising. Otto Dix and Georg Grosz, too, have still not reached their ceiling.

The 768,000 Marks that a Japanese dealer paid on 4 July this year at Sotheby's for a Klee work and the 180,000 Mark cheque Ketterer signed at the same auction for Jawlensky's *Landschaft bei Murnau* are signs of a market that is still soaring.

These stars of the Expressionist scene and their current popularity should not hide the fact that there are still many exponents of this genre who do not receive such adulation. Early Campendonk is available for 50,000 to 100,000 Marks, and the 150,000 Marks Ketterer recently attracted for a Campendonk work was for an outstanding Cubist painting executed in 1912.

Then there is Ludwig Meidner. Excellent drawings by this artist are still on the market. Other possibilities for non-millionaires are Felixmüller and Max Pechstein. Even Ernst Barlach can be considered underpriced compared with so many of his colleagues. The time is not far off when these great artists of the inter-war years are subject to a far more healthy market caused by saturation point being reached.

Christian Herchenröder

(Handelsblatt, 30 October 1973)

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might have been better for the event if they had been. Hans Mayer's skilful chairmanship speeded up proceedings. Unfortunately sacrifices had to be made to keep up this pace.

But even if fewer sacrifices had been made, the Sphinx-like nature of Beckett would not have been illuminated any better nor the many enigmas surrounding him solved.

Helmut Scheffel

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 October 1973)

■ MEDICINE

Arteriosclerosis discussed at Berlin medical conference

More than half of all deaths in the civilised world can be attributed to diseases of the heart and circulation, Professor Gotthard Schettler of Heidelberg told the eight hundred or so doctors from both East and West attending the Third International Arteriosclerosis Conference in West Berlin. Forty per cent of the victims are aged between 35 and 64.

Although these diseases have long been the major health problem in industrial nations, no scientist has been able to chalk up a success in the fight against or prevention of arteriosclerosis.

Scientists attending the conference in West Berlin's Congress Hall claimed that this state of affairs would be remedied in future. Schettler himself, conference chairman, made a start by putting forward a heart and circulation programme listing demands connected with the research into and fight against arteriosclerosis.

Whenever arteriosclerosis is discussed, a number of risk factors such as smoking, over-eating, high blood pressure or excessive drinking are mentioned as being the cause of the disease or a contributory factor towards it.

Schettler demanded that epidemiological studies must now be conducted to establish the truth of these claims, which should not prove all that difficult. The findings could then be used as a basis for treating and preventing arteriosclerosis. Schettler conceded that this demanded extraordinary effort and specialist knowledge as it was a case of making people change their normal habits.

The interconnection between nutrition and arteriosclerosis must be resolved, whatever the cost. The existing fund of experience is large enough for doctors to recommend special diets for patients with diseases of the heart and circulation or those people who run a special risk of contracting them. Doctors do not have to search their conscience when doing so.

But, Schettler said, it is another question altogether whether the population as a whole should be recommended to adhere to such dietary measures: "Conducting dietary experiments on a small number of people and over a limited period of time strikes me as better than large-scale tests with hundreds of thousands of persons who are far more difficult to supervise individually."

Basic research into arteriosclerosis has been overdone in the Federal Republic at the cost of practical medicine, Schettler claimed, but it must be intensified in the form of joint international projects.

One of the most urgent necessities of our age is to coordinate the worldwide arteriosclerosis research conducted in thousands of hospitals and laboratories and bring it into a central administrative frame work, he stated.

Another point in Schettler's heart and circulation programme calls for the classification of the various ailments and disorders connected with arteriosclerosis. He claims that there are far too few clinical examinations of arteriosclerosis as a disease of the whole system, that is one affecting a specific region of the body such as the digestion, the lymph system or nervous system.

"Pathological anatomists, internists, cardiologists, neurologists, ophthalmologists and psychiatrists should add to the angiologists' findings," Schettler told the conference. "Biochemists, physiologists and coagulation specialists should contribute to the solution of so-called clinical processes."

As the first indications of arteriosclerosis can be found during a person's youth though an accurate forecast of when the disease of the heart or circulation will break out is still not possible, Schettler urged that long-term research should be intensified.

Arteriosclerosis patients could then be observed over a long period of time. Research teams who have already been able to collate projects in this sector could then judge the extent to which arteriosclerosis is encouraged by social and mental stress and inhibited by sport and physical exercise.

Schettler is convinced that the fight against arteriosclerosis could register greater and more rapid success than the fight against cancer, the number two killer, if only there was international cooperation in this sector.

"If we manage to reduce those factors causing the disease or contributing towards it, we would be doing a great service to humanity," he stated. "Past research findings indicate that the best defence against diseases of the heart and circulation is a simple life."

"We ought to study the life led by those persons who own nothing and examine the best course that could be steered between affluence and starvation level to cut back the number of deaths from arteriosclerosis," he demanded.

But Schettler's heart and circulation programme will not be put into effect all that easily. A number of research projects

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discussed at the conference make arteriosclerosis appear as confusing and as contradictory as ever.

Dr D. Kritchevsky of Philadelphia mentioned the role that enzymes could play in the arteries during the emergence of arteriosclerosis. many enzymes are over-active in arteries affected by arteriosclerosis and others are underactive compared with those in healthy arteries.

Dr Simon Rodbard of Duarte (USA) demonstrated that tension and pressure can encourage arterosclerosis and Dr Jean-Louis Beaumont of Creteil, France revealed that even the body's own defence mechanisms could play a role in the emergence of certain forms of the disease.

A number of different antibodies produced by the organism are known to disturb the metabolism and lead in time to deposits of fat in the artery which will lead to constriction.

Even now it can be forecast that there will never be a method to cure all forms of arteriosclerosis at one fell swoop.

Dieter Dietrich

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 30 October 1973)

Sterlisation can have after-effects, Munich doctor claims

DIE WELT

Sterilisation, even when voluntary, can lead to mental disorders in women, Professor W. Mende, head of the forensic psychiatry department of Munich University Neurological Hospital, claims in a study he recently published in Giessen. Mende therefore opposes the view held by many doctors that psychological after-effects were unlikely after sterilisation.

The study, based on fifteen independent series of tests conducted by scientists from both home and abroad, reveals that a majority of sterilised women sooner or later suffer a crisis as a result of the irrevocable loss of their fertility.

This could set off more or less deepseated abnormal mental reactions or developments, Mende claims. As no accurate forecast of future developments can be made before sterilisation, Mende recommends any woman wanting to be sterilised to consult a psychiatrist first.

It is difficult to define the types of woman who are susceptible to mental disorders following sterilisation. The only clear fact that has so far emerged is that women who are sterilised shortly before their change of life and those with schizophrenia or slight mental ailments are not affected.

The most frequently cited reason for these mental disorders is the depression following the loss of fertility. Feelings of guilt are rare and even when they do play a role the reasons given have nothing to do with morals or religion. Infertility is then seen as an offence against the husband or family traditon.

As these mental disorders usually disappear completely a year after sterilisation. Mende only opposes operations of this type when there is no real medical grounds for one.

Sterilisation should be allowed for preventive or genetic reasons, he claims, though not on purely economic or social grounds which are outweighed by the risk of a long period of mental disorder following the operation.

"Doctors would be ill-advised to conduct sterilisations whenever requested," Mende ruled. A doctor should never recommend sterilisation whenever there are inadequate medical grounds.

Gesine Desgroseilliers

(Die Welt, 31 October 1973)

Institute to investigate cardiac problems opened

Every year somewhere between five and six hundred thousand West Germans suffer a heart attack, 130,000 of them fatally. Forty per cent of the deaths occur in the 35 to 64 age range, that is among people who can still lead an active life.

Heidelberg cardiologist Gotthard Schettler mentioned these statistics on opening a new type of research establishment that will concentrate on studying heart attacks.

The research establishment, which will be headed by Schettler himself, will participate in international projects organised and begun by the World Health Organisation and the International Cardiological Association in conjunction with national associations in Europe and the United States.

Research will centre on six main sectors — epidemiology, the psychomatic and psychological element of heart attacks, metabolic disorders during infarction, nutrition and infarction, pharmacotherapy and the rehabilitation of heart patients.

Researchers engaged in the epidemiological studies will use hospital statistics, medical histories and later control data to examine the frequency and course of heart attacks in the Heidelberg and Mannheim area and discover the living conditions contributing to heart disease.

Debatable risk factors such as a lack of physical exercise or stress will be examined alongside estabilished risk factors like high blood pressure, metabolic disorders, excess weight, diabetes, gout and smoking.

A research team at Heidelberg's Ludolf Krehl Hospital has long been involved with the psychosomatic and psychological aspects of heart attacks. The difficult

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task being undertaken in this sector is to classify those persons or groups particularly threatened.

The term "managerial disease" indicates that only top executives are threatened by heart attacks. Actually, the whole population of industrial nations is endangered and the managers only formed a type of vanguard.

Apart from the general increase in risks, psychological factors are evidently involved. Defining the make-up of persons particularly threatened will therefore prove valuable if doctors are to employ the right methods of preventing heart disease in every specific case.

Schettler has concentrated on the role of arteriosclerosis in heart attacks in the course of his research work. But he did not stress this sector when opening his new research station. Instead, he pointed out that his hospital had for many years dealt intensively with the role of metabolic disorders in heart disease.

He gave no precise information however about the course of future research in this interesting, controversial and largely unexplored sector. Foreign grant-holders, guest researchers and doctorship candidates are to operate in this field with the backing of the Research Association and the Humboldt Foundation.

Schettler believes firms should be particularly interested in tracing the factors leading to heart disease among their employees. The new research station plans to draw up programmes to indicate how this can be undertaken. The findings of research commissioned at the station will subsequently be announced to the public.

An "Association to Promote the Work of the Heart Research Institute" will provide financial support and also put forward a number of ideas. Schettler also hopes for support from food manufacturers, the tobacco industry, firms marketing alcoholic drinks and the pharmaceutic trade. The Industrial Foundation has already promised its cooperation. The Institute also hopes for adequate government support but so far no promises have been forthcoming.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 31 October 1973)

■ MEDICINE

Research Association investigates problems of rhesus factor

The Research Association has published the results of a joint inquiry into the rhesus factor conducted at sixty hospitals throughout the Federal Republic. The aim of the project was to find out whether measures could be taken to prevent babies in the womb suffering damage when their blood differed from that of their mother. It was discovered that this could be prevented in ninety per cent of cases.

Complications can arise during a pregnancy when the mother's blood lacks the rhesus factor. The term comes from the fact that rhesus monkeys are used to examine the blood.

If a guinea-pig is injected with the blood of a rhesus monkey, the blood of the guinea-pig itself produces a serum that agglutinates the red corpuscles of 85 per cent of all white persons.

These persons possess the rhesus factor and are described as rhesus positive. Persons whose red corpuscles do not agglutinate when brought into contact with the serum are described as rhesus negative.

As many as eighteen per cent of the population of the Federal Republic are rhesus negative. The red corpuscles of people who are rhesus negative lack a specific characteristic — usually the D factor — which people who are rhesus positive possess.

When a rhesus negative woman becomes pregnant, her child could inherit the D factor from its father and thus be rhesus positive. If the mother's blood comes into contact with rhesus positive red corpuscles (erythrocytes), she will form antibodies to destroy the alien (rhesus positive) blood.

A few thousandths of a litre of rhesus positive blood is all it takes to set this process in motion. This quantity can easily pass from the child's circulation into that of the mother during birth.

Once this process has begun, it cannot be reversed, or so the present state of medical knowledge claims. The anti-D antibodies formed pass the placenta during pregnancy and penetrate into the circulation of the rhesus positive child.

The child's red corpuscles are largely destroyed as they contain the D factor the antibody attacks. The child becomes seriously ill as a result of a disease called anti-D erythroblastosis. Without treatment the disease can often result in death or permanent brain damage.

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Seventy thousand rhesus negative mothers bear rhesus positive children in the Federal Republic every year. Despite intensive treatment (which is not possible in all cases) ten to fifteen per cent of the children suffering from erythroblastosis cannot be saved. Apart from rhesus incompatibility there are other forms of blood incompatibility whose consequences are far less serious.

Doctors must therefore aim at preventing rhesus negative mothers from forming antibodies against the D factor. At the beginning of the sixties it was found that rhesus negative persons did not react to the D factor by producing antibodies if they were already injected with the D factor antibodies beforehand.

With this form of passive immunisation it is only necessary to vaccinate the rhesus negative mother with the anti-D antibodies as soon as possible after the birth. This neutralises the small quantities of child's blood that have passed into the mother's circulation during pregnancy and birth. The antibodies injected die off after a certain period and the mother can undergo a further pregnancy without any great risk to her child.

During the six-year period between 1965 and 1970, a total of 5,956 rhesus negative mothers gave birth to rhesus positive babies in hospitals covered by the project.

A few hours before birth 3,257 of them were given injections of anti-D antibodies while the other 2,699 were not given treatment of this kind. Only 0.4 of the mothers treated reacted to the D factor in their children's blood compared to 4,4 per cent of the untreated mothers. The effectivity of this preventive measure therefore amounts to some ninety per cent.

But a rhesus negative mother must be given fresh anti-D antibody treatment every time she has a miscarriage or gives birth to a rhesus positive child. Mothers treated in this way are allowed to breast-feed their children as the injected antibodies do not pass into the mother's milk.

The findings of the study financed by the Research Association support the demand that every woman who lacks the D factor and is therefore clasified as rhesus negative should be given the anti-D antibody treatment immediately after the birth of her first child in order to protect any further children she may have.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 October 1973)

No dieting for pregnant mothers

Expectant mothers should not cut their food intake too drastically during the last stage of their pregnancy, otherwise the growth of their unborn children's brain cells could be inhibited.

Scientists have established that the child's brain develops particularly fast during this period. If the mother eats too little, the child's brain is supplied with insufficient nutrition, which could result in permanent damage.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 26 October 1973)

Blood group O people likely to be healthy

Persons with the blood group O should be generally more healthy and live longer, according to Professor Gerhard Jorgensen of Göttingen. Forty per cent of the population of the Federal Republic belong to this blood group.

Professor Jörgensen and his staff conducted a series of experiments to back up the claim that persons with blood group O are more resistant, are less frequently ill and possess an above-average life expectancy.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 31 October 1973)

■ ARCHITECTURE

Lübeck Cathedral's glory restored

DIE WELT

The main aisle of Lübeck Cathedral looked bright and elegant for the 800th anniversary celebrations of the laying of the foundation stone on 21 October.

In the nave all trace of damage from bombs on the night of Palm Sunday 1942 has been eradicated and it would take an experienced guide to point out to the visitor the work of re-building that has been carried out here in the past thirty years.

At the end of these thirty years, which have been a constant battle against natural decay, the church authorities in Lübeck can state with pride that for the anniversary Lübeck cathedral has been saved.

Mediaeval cathedrals are never completed. Every generation adds, changes, rebuilds. The present generation has had the burden of reconstruction and its joys as well. They had to make the choice whether or not to work on what was virtually a ruin in the centre of a city that was losing population and a cathedral parish of only a mere 200 souls. The essential expenditure would have been enough to build five modern churches.

St Mary's, the burghers' church, finished in 1330, was in a dire state of repair and had to take precedence. But while this church in the heart of the city was being restored a citizens' initiative was started for the Cathedral.

A Foundation was set up, the Friends of Lübeck Cathedral was founded, there was a *Juratorium* "Rescue the Cathedral Towers" and old and young citizens of Lübeck started an organisation for the restoration of the famous towers of Lübeck that can be seen on the horizon miles away.

It was the citizens who answered the decisive question with their sacrifices. Then Bonn and the Federal state of Schleswig-Holstein helped out. So far eight million Marks have gone into rebuilding, two million of them from private donations.

By the time the Cathedral is completely restored, which should take another three years, the bill will have risen to ten million Marks, according to the estimates of the head of the rebuilding operation, Friedrich Zimmermann.

The damage was incredible. Incendiary bombs burnt all that was inflammable — the tops of the towers, cross-beams between the towers, the ceiling, all the windows, a large part of the art works, the main altar, pews, and the Schnitger organ of 1696.

The force of the explosions weakened the foundations fo the fabric. By 1950 all the vaulting over the Gothic choir had caved in. The cross nave was damaged when the gables on the north side collapsed and the Gothic entranceway and the artistically so valued main portal or 'Paradies' perished.

The Gothic choir of the Cathedral chapter with the epitaphs of the Catholic bishops of the first four hundred years is the next section of the fabric to be restored. It is separated from the main aisle by a glass partition almost like a delicate network behind the rood screen.

And it is here in the 125-metre long hall that guests for the jubilee celebrations discovered the "new old Cathedral".

From the start Lübeck avoided attempting to renovate the old work artificially. Efforts were made to preserve the monumental size of the Cathedral. This was the overall concept. It worked from the basic principle of making use of the tremendous amount of unused space so as to be a practical community hall as well as being able to accommodate more than 1,000 visitors to services and church concerts.

In pre-Reformation days the whole area of the high altar, the sanctuary, the broad central aisle and the side aisles were given over to solemn processions. The destruction of the Cathedral opened up the possibility of converting it to the needs of a Lutheran community.

The new altar is in stone in a simple geometrical form. Architecturally it has been placed in the most effective position centrally under the first vaulting in front of the triumphal cross by Bernt Notke dating from 1477 and immediately in line with the Renaissance chancel.

The language of form, the sense of colour, the signs of exquisite taste and penetration of thought have made themselves felt here. The anthracite colour of the bishop's throne contrasts with the worn colour of the flooring in Oberkirchen sandstone.



The Cathedral's famous spires

(Photo: W. Castell)

The restored aisle

(Photo: Presse- und Informationsstelle der Evangelisch-Lutherischen Kirche in Lübeck)

Unlike at the Stiftskirche in Bad Segeberg and Ratzeburg Cathedral which date from the same period, brick has not been used simply with a decorative side function in the renovation of Lübeck's *Heinrichsdom*. Pillars and walls are in a bright white colour. Thus the basic Romanesque character of the Cathedral, its ponderous seriousness, has been changed considerably to a festive tone.

The font dating from 1455 and supported by three angels is placed in front of the high glass wall in front of the choir which still awaits renovation. The rood screen no longer divides one part of the church from another and acts as an entrance portal to the baptismal area, an aesthetically exciting solution found by the architects Sandtmann and Grundmann.

When the afternoon sun shines on Notke's seventeen metres-high triumphal cross is often seen in a rainbow of colour from the stained-glass windows. The cross dominates, and corresponds with the monumental nature of the Cathedral.

The decorative work on the crosspiece is still missing. For the past two years the Cathedral has had a workshop specially designed to restore the triumphal cross. Seven young experts on restoration are working on the Cathedral's treasures. They come from Stockholm, Zürich, Munich and Hamburg.

At the moment they are concentrating on removing traces of paint from the two statues of Mary and John, each 2.80 metres high. They are injecting a solution of artificial resin into the wormholes to strengthen these statues.

While working on the figure of John they hollowed it out and made an exciting discovery — inside was a parchment dated 1472, lost for the past 500 years. This stated that Bernt Notke, a Dutchman working in Stockholm and Lübeck, was a master craftsman, and ascribed to him the triumphal cross, which for many years was believed to have been the work of another.

The new Lübeck organ built in 1970 by the world-famous Danish firm, Marcussen of Aarhus, is a triumph of organ construction in its depth and differentiation of sound. The organ was specially constructed to the acoustics of the Cathedral with its long echo, and the quality and intensity of the organ's sound has quickly made it one of the most famous modern organs in Europe.

A stereo record of Christmas choir music in Lübeck Cathedral under the musical direction of Professor Uwe Röhl has been produced to celebrate the jubilee. It is the 107th record so far by the Kammerchor der Musikhochschule, Lübeck.

Helmut Alt

(Die Welt, 20 October 1973)

■ SPORT

Ice hockey has little following in the big cities

Jim Gebhardt from Baden-Baden never misses an ice hockey fixture. He is equally at home at first, second or local division games. Jim is usually around when the colts chase the puck too.

For Gebhardt, a Canadian, ice hockey is more than a hobby. It is his bread and butter as a talent scout for the Toronto Maple Leaves. He is continually on the lookout for likely lads willing to earn up to 50,000 dollars a year.

So far, though, Jim Gebhardt has only signed on youngsters from Scandinavia and Switzerland. In Germany kids only go for football, he shrugs. Ice hockey is an also-ran.

In this country ice hockey is certainly a small-town sport. The champions usually come from a small town in Bavaria: Füssen or Landshut, say. In recent years only Düsseldorf has managed to break the Bavarian stranglehold on the sport.

Düsseldorf chairman Breidenbach admits that the championship title in this country is not worth a bean, and this is probably why coach Xaver Unsinn left Düsseldorf a disappointed man and headed for Berlin and the one-time club of the legendary Gustav Jänecke and Schibukat of East Prussia, a combination that bagged one championship title after another.

In those days German ice hockey was something to write home about at the international level too — but alas this was all forty years and more ago!

"Ice hockey has to re-establish itself in the cities," says Xaver Unsinn, a Füssen man who gave up a secure local authority job in his Bavarian home town to try and popularise ice hockey in Cologne, Düsseldorf and now Berlin.

His Berlin club are in a surprisingly good position in the league table this season but he does not expect them to win the title yet, though he does feel a title for Berlin would be big news.

Market researchers would have us believe that there are ten million people in this country who are potentially interested in ice hockey as fans for every 1,000 players. The demand, of course, is not catered for, which is hardly surprising. Compared with North American professionals ice hockey players in this country earn peanuts.

"We ought to do things the way they do in Canada and the United States," says Hans Rampf, a one-time international and now coach in Bad Tölz. This country could certainly support an American-style professional league in theory.

Yet whereas clubs in Toronto, Boston, Vancouver and Chicago are swimming in money Hamburg's HSV is in the process of putting its ice hockey section to sleep for lack of money.

The Federal league consists of five city clubs and five small-town clubs. The second division consists of leading clubs from Nuremberg, Mannheim and Duisburg and seven village teams.

Players and play in this country are so far behind the times that they are the despair of first-rate coaches from the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Canada. The reason is that for decades ice hockey has been played like Skat, the national card game: after work and for fun. "The money is the only thing that is any good here," says Canadian coach Mike Daski, who has been in this country for years, "but it is spent in such a way that there is next to no incentive for the players."

Xaver Unsinn echoes this sentiment "The officials," he comments, "are merely worried about losing their amateur status. One of these days, they fear, this country may be disqualified from taking part in the Olympics." But ice hockey in this country does not qualify for Olympic participation in any case.

Powerful older players such as Leonhard Waitl of Bavaria, who is getting on for forty, are still considered Federal league material. "I'll still be going strong at fifty," Waitl claims in broad dialect.

It is not that there is a shortage of arenas or ice rinks. There would be no problem about training all the year round either. What this country lacks is initiative.

Says Petr Hejma from Prague, now with Düsseldorf: "I am only half the man I was in Prague."

Peter Spiegel

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 27 October 1973)

Bronze winner

Uta Schorn, 16, from Leverkusen, won a bronze medal in horse vaulting at the Women's 9th European Gymnastic Championships in London (Photo: Horstmüller)

Porsche clean-sweep the CanAm series once more

When Denis Hulme of New Zealand won the 1970 CanAm grand prix series in a works McLaren the prize money totalled 162,202 dollars, then roughly 535,000 Marks. A year later his team-mate Peter Revson won exactly 4,000 dollars less.

Last year George Follmer of the United States put in some sensational driving to win the series for Porsche for the first time ever, but in the process he won only 123,350 dollars, and this year Mark Donohue, the latest Porsche super-star, won only 113,350 dollars.

In American eyes a bulging purse is a sure sign of a good championship event and vice-versa. The more money is involved, the more kudos is at stake. This is the way smart promoters keep motor-racing in business on the other side of the Atlantic.

Last year when Porsche entered the CanAm series their turbo model made news headlines in the United States. At the end of the season the McLaren team pulled out of the series in disgust as the Porsches swept all before them.

The organisers had horrified visions of the bottom dropping out of the championship market this season. "The German tanks from Stuttgart are rolling all before them," *Autoweek* commented.

The tank was a 917/10 Porsche developing 980 horse power. Previously McLarens had ruled the CanAm roost, but this had not worried the Americans unduly. Porsche, however, still export forty per cent of their production to the United States, and racing successes still do a car's image good in the States.

Porsche will certainly still be in racing next season, though difficulties are accumulating behind the scenes. Advertising money is becoming a scarcer commodity, public interest is flagging and so, as a result, is the free publicity afforded by sports reporting.

Problems have also arisen as a result of the position of Porsche's racing manager in the United States, Roger Penske. Penske is one of the largest General Motors dealers in North America, and Porsche compete with GM for the custom of the motoring public from Boston to San Francisco too.

To cut a long story short, Detroit has made it clear to Penske in no uncertain terms that there are limits to what it is prepared to stomach.

Critics were forecasting the end of the CanAm series last year in view of the Porsche supremacy, but Porsche development director Helmuth Bott and his staff are persevering with their turbo title-winner.

The aerodynamics of the body tended to drive the twelve-cylinder monster into the ground. Drivers lamented that as soon as they took their feet off the gas the car virtually ground to a halt.

This, mind you, was a slight exaggeration. The 380,000-Mark Porsche was nonetheless capable of 340 kilometres an hour (213 mph), but this again was insufficient to remain competitive in the United States.

Chief engineer Flegl and drivers Mark Donohue and Willi Kauhsen headed for the works track at Weissach and the Paul Ricard circuit at Castellet in the South of France.

After a number of trials the Porsche finally managed to clock up 365 kilometres an hour (228 mph) on the long straights at Le Castellet, and power was boosted to more than 1,200 hp. This settled matters.

There were a few teething troubles in the first two races this season, but the last six were a clean sweep for Porsche, and Mark Donohue won everything there was to win.

Porsche plan to stay in racing. Their contract with Penske is good for another year. What they now need is another star at the wheel, though. After his last triumphant victory at Riverside, California, Mark Donohue announced his retirement.

Peter Scheldt

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 31 October 1973)

Oberhausen sports film festival lacks sparkle

Little international glamour was in evidence at this year's Oberhausen sports film festival, not even as the grand prix awards were made. In future it might be better to talk in terms not of a festival but of a committee with seminars and talks by experts.

At the end of the four-day sports film marathon, not forgetting two podium discussions on "Must Olympic films be the way they are?" and "Do sports films convey the idea of a healthy world?" (which created utter confusion rather than shedding the light intended) and exhibitions on politics and sport featuring cartoons and works of art, many of the 400 participants from two dozen countries (though mainly critics and sport students rather than film-makers) were overwhelmed by a feeling of returning to real life from a dream world.

For the most part film and TV entries, many of them first-rate professional productions, glorified sport uncritically, crowning the hero of field and track with a halo. The sole exception was training and coaching films, for which there was a special competition this time.

It is to the jury's credit that it did not succumb to the temptation represented by this dangerous cliché of sport as a clean and unproblematic discipline. Seventy-three films were entered, but the award-winners were, for the most part, concerned with major issues relating to competition and physical prowess.

How closely interlinked are sport and social policies nowadays, for instance? How easy it is to manipulate the individual and cast the athlete as the star in a sports bonanza. At what point are physical and psychical limits reached? What tragedy at times accompanies the noble contest competitive sport is supposed to be!

The international film and TV jury awarded the grand prix for TV films, plus a cash award of 5,000 Marks donated by Oberhausen city council, to Polish director Mariusz Walter for his "Last Man Home."

The last man is the driver of the car that brings up the rear in a road-racing grand prix. Close and sympathetic observation capture the heroic and unrewarded toil of the man who drives on the bitter end regardless of the fact that he no longer has a hope of winning. This film was also awarded a prize by the Roman Catholic Church in this country.

A grand prix was also awarded to "Trade" directed by Lear Levin of the United States, a socially critical study of coloured boxers in America.

The grand prix for the best coaching film, also inclusive of a cash award of 5,000 Marks donated by the North Rhine-Westphalian Ministry of Education, was won by Manfred Verderwülbecke of this country for his "Skiing is Child's Play" which the jury considered to represent a compelling challenge to go in for both this and other sports.

The Oberhausen festival ended with a surprise for all that. Three sporting professionals, Egon Stengl, editor of a sports paper, Klaus Koch, organiser of the first Oberhausen sports film festival in 1968, and sports reporter Uli Kaiser, set up an organising committee for a rival sports film festival in Munich.

They too plan to hold an international festival, to be held in the Olympic city from 20 to 24 February 1974. There will be separate juries for event coverage, documentaries, coaching films, publicity and amateur entries. There will also be a film exchange and prizes will be awarded at a gala ball. This is certainly a serious challenge for Oberhausen.

Günter Bartz

(Neue Ruhr-Zeitung, 29 October 1973)